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COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD.

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OLDEST AGRICULTURAL AND LIVE STOCK JOURNAL IN THE MISSISSIPPI VALLEY

Sixty-Eighth Year.

ST. LOUIS, MO., FEBRUARY 11, 1915.

Volume LXVIII. No. 6.



Special Poultry Number

WHAT OUR READERS THINK & DO

NOTES FROM A LAWYER-FARMER IN NEW MEXICO.

Editor, Rural World:—Having been now for some time a subscriber to your valued periodical, and having noticed at various times communications from your other subscribers describing crop conditions, etc., and being a son of the soil, and a farmer as well as a professional man, I thought I would tell something of our country here.

As is well known, we are in what is called the semi-arid belt, but it does not seem to hurt us any, as our average wheat yield in this valley for the last ten years has been 50 bushels to the acre, and that without the use of any artificial fertilizer or manure of any kind.

Our native farmers just farm as their grandfathers did, with the exception that they use modern plows,—and the crops grow of themselves almost. Of course we irrigate, but a great deal more water is used than is necessary, as one of our professors of our state agricultural college informed us last week. In fact, he said our yield would be better if we used less water. Now, this looks steep, but it can be proven by the mills, and the said agricultural college and experiment station at any time.

Dry farming wheat yields in this state from 35 to 60 bushels in favorable years, but our valley is the cream of the state for steady production.

Our alfalfa averages four to six tons to the acre per year, and our prices on all our products are the same as those around St. Louis, with freight added as a further profit to our farmers, as we have a large mining population to supply, which so far we have never been able to fully do, and they have to piece out from the east. But here is never less than 35 cents a pound, and eggs never under 25 cents a dozen.

Our winters are short and mild, never going colder than 5 or 6 degrees below zero, and that only for a few hours in each winter. I have rose bushes standing out in the open on the front yard, which have not yet cast their leaves this winter. We had roses blooming out of doors without any shelter in November last as late as the 10th.

Field peas yield enormously in this valley, and a superior quality, running higher in protein than the famed Canada pea.

There are lots of opportunities for those who want to get farming land cheap here, and large tracts can be bought for as low as \$2.50 an acre, with water at a very shallow depth. We want to get a few good modern and progressive farmers in here, to show us what can be done with our advantages. We have succeeded in getting one of your Missouri men in at last, Dr. Barber, of Flat River, Mo., who has bought about 1,800 acres and is driving improvements every day, and says he has not a single acre too much for him.

We have the best of schools, and churches, and while away out here, feel that we are real civilized.

I lived many years ago in Illinois, and am much interested in the reports from there, as I left long before the day of commercial fertilizers, and it seems to me the crops were better in my boyhood there when we were clearing off the forest.

Quite a number of our native farmers here are subscribers to your paper, and come into my office to discuss the articles with me, and I think you can count on them as steady patrons, as they are much interested.

We have never been compelled to inoculate the soil here to get alfalfa to grow, as this seems to be its natural home, and they have been very curious to know what was meant by inoculation of the soil, and one of them

asked me one day whether I thought inoculation would increase his yield. Now, his alfalfa stands about as thick on the ground as hair on a dog's back, and I told him I did not think it would.

I have yet to see a piece of worn-out ground in this valley, although it has been farmed for more than 100 years near the river, and has never had even manure put on it, the native farmers letting their supply of manure rot in the corrals where it falls.

We have had but one snow this winter, and that very light, and as I read of the storms of the east, I am a little glad that I am here away from it all. I wish you and all my fellow subscribers a prosperous year.—J. A. Low, Socorro, New Mexico.

STALLION REGISTRATION.

Editor, Rural World:—With the Rural World we beg leave to differ with Mr. Clement, not only on the registry of stallions, but on the whole horse problem so far as we farmers are concerned. He seems to place no value on the horse unless he is "in the list." Probably not one horse in ten that is "in the list" ever pays expenses, and the other nine are too slow to race and too light to work; hence, they are misfits and do not pay for the raising. The farmer should leave this very expensive and uncertain business to the sporting man with plenty of money.

We believe that our registration laws were passed to protect the mare owners and not importers of stallions, as Mr. Clement asserts.

Mr. Clement cites one stallion that was registered as sound, when he was not sound. The veterinary surgeon who examined this horse was either incompetent or dishonest. Many criminals escape punishment. Shall we abolish the criminal code?

We farmers want to know that a stallion is sound and "full-blood," and the law is intended to insure this; but, if the Standard-bred people want to breed to blind, cross-bred sires, we have nothing to say.

The duration of the war is too uncertain to influence our breeding for a single year; and if we breed the heaviest horses and mules possible we shall have no trouble in selling our surplus.—Agricola, Illinois.

TO STAMP OUT THE CATTLE PLAQUE IN ILLINOIS.

With the dissolution of the temporary injunction prohibiting the slaughter of herds infected with or exposed to the foot-and-mouth disease, federal authorities believe that the work of eradicating the disease in Illinois can proceed with much more rapidity. From the latest figures available it appears that approximately 40 per cent of the total infection in the country has been in Illinois. In the middle of January, however, when the injunction was issued, there remained only 19 infected herds awaiting slaughter in that state. That number has since been doubled and there were 39 infected herds when the injunction was dissolved. There is, moreover, no certainty that additional cases will not be found from time to time. With the adoption, however, by the state authorities of the same regulations for interstate movement for live stock that the federal authorities have insisted upon for interstate traffic, any further serious spread of the disease should be checked.

In the regulations which became effective February 1, the federal authorities have changed the provisions of the quarantine in one important respect. Live stock from both exposed and modified areas can no longer be shipped to points in free areas. Formerly it was possible to do this for the purpose of immediate slaughter from modified areas, and, after federal certification and inspection, from exposed areas as well. The change was determined upon because of the fact that cattle suffering with the disease were found to have been shipped from Chicago to Philadelphia, Richmond, and Buffalo. Under the regulations now in force, cattle may only be shipped from the quarantined areas for the purpose of immediate slaughter and then only to points that are themselves in quarantined sections.

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3 Packages Caramel Pudding45
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2 1-lb. Packages Corn Starch30
2 1 1/4-lb. Pkgs. Black Pepper (Gr.)20
20 Bars Family Laundry Soap	1.00
6 1-lb. Cans Lustrous Bright Scented Pwd.30
2 Packages Washing Powder30
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COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD

Vol. 68, No. 6.

ST. LOUIS, MO., FEBRUARY 11, 1915.

WEEKLY.

From Hatch to Hatchet

There Is Many a Slip and Many Disappointments With Chicks—Professor Kempster Tells Farmers at Columbia How to Prevent and How to Overcome.

Reported By The Editor.

LIVABILITY in chicks is an inherited characteristic and it depends more upon the mother than upon the male," was the novel way that Prof. H. L. Kempster, of the Missouri College of Agriculture, put an important fact to an audience one day during Farmers' Week recently in Columbia. "Some hens have the faculty of laying eggs that will hatch chicks which are more apt to live than the chicks from eggs of other hens. For this reason, only mature hens, two-year-olds, of high vigor and vitality, should be used for breeding purposes. And select for hatching the largest eggs that these hens lay and have the lot uniform in size. Actual experiments show that the larger the egg, (not, of course, double yolked ones) the larger the chick that is hatched."

Although winter eggs are what poultry men and farmers strive for, the professor pointed out that hens for breeding purposes should not be actively productive during the early winter months. They should be made comfortable, given plenty of exercise, lots of green food and the right kind of feed to cause them to lay abundantly in late winter and early spring.

Incubators vs. Hens.

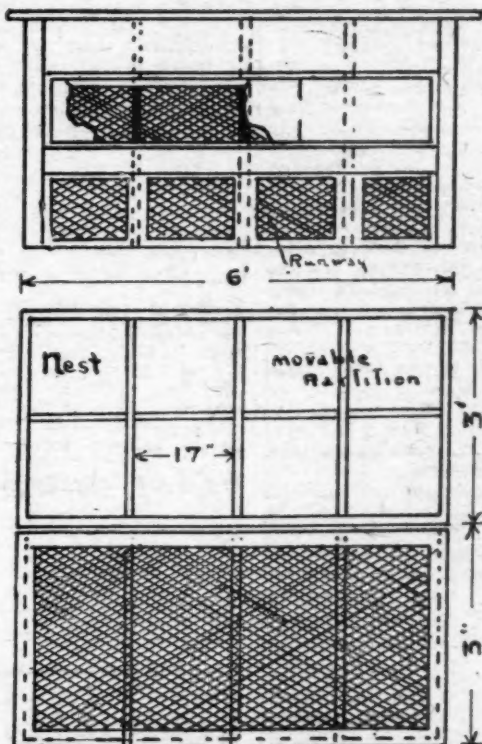
In regard to incubation—the actual hatching—the speaker said that incubators are not as successful as hens, the chicks not being quite so healthy, but the incubator has the advantage of hatching a large number of chicks at the same time; that is, the chicks are all of one age. In the case of hens, it is impossible to have a number sitting at the same time and this makes the farmer's flock of chickens in fall widely different in age and size, under which conditions the old overrun and injure the young.

Furthermore, it is much easier to care for chicks without the use of hens. The trouble with lice is practically eliminated; then, too, the machine-raised chicks are less wild, and are more easily under the control of the farmer-poultryman.

"In selecting a machine," said Professor Kempster, "the points to be considered are: First, do not buy a cheap machine. Second, buy a machine with a good reputation. Third, buy a machine with lamp easily accessible, so that it is easy to take care of; also one with a good lamp, well constructed, so that it will not leak or spill oil, and one with large enough tank to last not less than 36 hours at one filling. See to it that the oil hole is large enough so that it is easily filled. Fourth, purchase a machine simple in its control so far as the regulation of ventilation and temperature is concerned. Also select one that is easy to clean. Above all, avoid the machine that requires constant adjustment and unusual attention—the farmer hasn't the time."

The Natural Method.

Hatching with hens was dealt with in detail. The nests should be at least 12 inches square and made on the ground or with dirt or an overturned sod placed in its bottom to supply moisture. The dirt should be covered with three or four inches of fine hay or clean straw, well hollowed so that the eggs



Hatching and Brooding Coop.—The upper drawing shows the front of the coop with the wire screen under the solid door. The solid door when raised furnishes protection from rain and sun. The lower drawing shows the location of the nests in the coop.

will not roll out. Do not use more eggs than the hen can cover comfortably. Dust the hen with insect powder when she is placed on the nest, and again before the hatch.

A combination hatching and brooding coop is being used at the college with great success. It is six feet long, three feet wide, three feet high in front and two feet high at the rear. (See the illustrations). Three partitions made of burlap frames divide the coop into four compartments. Four hens are set at one time and when hatching takes place two partitions are removed and the chicks from the four hens are divided between two; later the middle partition is taken out and little roosts are put in for the use of the young stock the rest of the summer. The coop can be placed in the orchard or a field or the lane.

The front of the coop has a 10-inch solid door, which can be raised to admit light or to provide more ventilation, the opening being covered with wire screen. Doors one foot high made of wire screen and arranged to slide up and down, lead out from each compartment. Covered runways three feet long extend out in front of the coop. These are detachable and may be removed as soon as the chicks do not require them. In the rear of the coop a door, eight inches wide, facilitates handling the hens.

Brooding and Feeding.

Little chicks require plenty of fresh air, and should be kept dry and clean. A vital consideration, the professor said, is to keep their backs warm, for that is the most tender part of their little bodies. Always have the brooder large enough to prevent crowding and to allow the chicks to run on dirt (soil) outside or in, as it is healthier. Chicks with hens should be confined in the coops until after the grass becomes fairly dry, as wet chicks become chilled, which causes digestive disorders to arise.

According to Professor Kempster a young chick doubles its weight in six days from the time of hatching. It grows 30 times as fast as a child. With this rapid growth, it must have food that contains essential constituents in proper amounts and proportions. The yolk of the egg furnishes the first food and for a week continues to contribute something.

Forty-eight hours after hatching is time enough to begin feeding. First give some fine white grit and wait three or four hours for the digestive organs to get into working order. Never feed a ration of one kind of grain alone. When the chicks are about 54 hours old, give them a small amount of commercial chick feed and rolled oats. Give sour skim milk or buttermilk in addition to water for drink, as these furnish protein and ash, both necessary for growth. They also contain lactic acid which acts as a germicide. Sour milk is better to use than sweet milk, because of this acid effect and it always is uniform in condition.

The Perpetual Dry Mash.

Feed the commercial chick feed in litter that is dry and clean, free from molds, with the rolled oats on the side, twice a day for about seven days. Then stop the rolled oats and substitute a dry mash, composed of one part of bran, two parts of cornmeal and two parts of middlings (shorts). Meat food is not necessary if sour milk is fed. Put the dry mash in small hoppers or shallow troughs, covered with half-inch wire mesh to prevent wasting, where the chicks can have access to it all the time. See that the cornmeal is free from molds and odors.

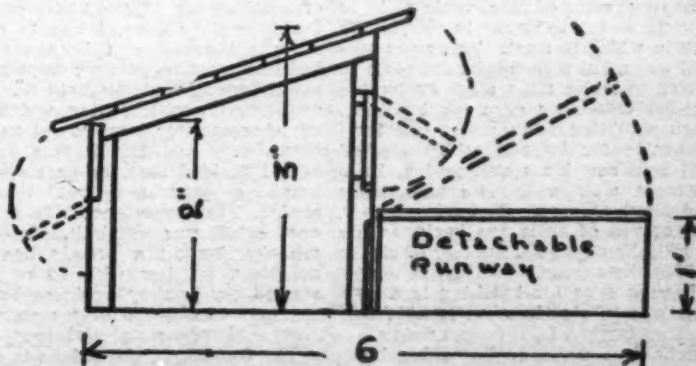
Continue feeding the commercial chick feed in the litter for about four weeks and then substitute cracked corn and wheat. About the second week from hatching, start feeding green foods, such as onions, lettuce, beets, green grass, sprouted oats, clover or alfalfa. The green food should be made fine enough for the chicks to eat; cut it with a meat chopper or even a knife. When feeding sprouted oats, do not include the roots as these or any other kind of dry material, are likely to compact the crop of the chicken.

Wet Mash Not Necessary.

In addition to the dry mash, it is permissible at about four weeks of age, but not necessary, to feed a wet mash once a day, say, at four in the afternoon. This may comprise the same ingredients, with a little grit, charcoal and bone meal added, and the whole moistened with milk. The wet mash should be thoroughly cleaned up at each feed, for it quickly sours. When available, also bread crumbs, hard-boiled eggs and various household foods may be fed in place of the mash rations, after the chicks are two weeks old, but best results are obtained by feeding material that can be definitely compounded and that will always be uniform in feeding value.

At the end of six or eight weeks, the chicks can be turned out of the brooders and allowed to roam at will, but always keep a dry grain mash where they can get at it at any time. Shut them up at night, to avoid loss from cats and other animals. During the day see that they have plenty of water, shade and a place to hide in case of hawks.

"Successful brooding requires close attention to detail," concluded Professor Kempster. "It depends upon other things than feed. One should know at all times just where or in what condition the chicks are. And above all remember that perfect cleanliness is absolutely essential in all the varied operations of the business."



Hatching and Brood Coop, End View.—The detachable runway furnishes a place for the hen to eat during the hatching period. For the first few days the chicks should be kept in this enclosure.



Hatching and raising chicks with coops of this nature is much easier than with the small coop usually employed. This coop will house about a dozen chicks until they are ready for winter quarters.

Begin With Poultry In the Right Way

Start On a Small Scale and Learn From Experience---Don't Expect to Make a Fortune the First Year---Have Patience and You'll Make Money.

By J. A. Reid, Pennsylvania.

THOUSANDS of people will start poultry keeping for the first time this spring. Thousands started last spring and every spring before that. It is to help these beginners that this article is written. So much worthless stuff has been written, giving all kinds of advice to the beginner, that I will try not to write any more, although I may not succeed.

Every beginner who starts in the poultry business this spring will either start to make money or merely for pleasure. Those who will start to keep chickens without expecting any financial returns do not need any advice. They are poultry keepers only for the diversion and fun it affords, and most of the fun in keeping poultry comes in constantly learning something new about the subject. But the man or woman who starts in the poultry business (for it is a business) as a business proposition, will be glad to have all the advice they can get.

for hatching. And the chicks can all be bought at one time, thus having all the fowls of one age.

Have a Reason.

Everyone intending to go into poultry keeping should have a definite aim before starting. Just starting to "keep chickens" will never bring you anywhere. Find out which particular line you think you can make the most in, and then stick to it. There are two sides to the poultry business, the fancy and the utility. Both have their usefulness, but I could not conscientiously advise the average beginner, living on the average farm, to attempt a venture into the fancy poultry business, at least not until he has had a good share of experience in the utility line. The fancy poultry business is at best uncertain. The beginner may be attracted by the high prices received by some fancier for some of his birds. But it should be remembered that the fancier who does receive good prices

growth by improper feeding will never make a good layer or a vigorous breeder. It is almost impossible to give a formula for feeding chicks that will apply to all kinds of fowls and to different sections of the country beyond saying that clean food and fresh drinking water are absolutely essential. Find out the methods used by other successful poultrymen in your vicinity, follow them and you will be on the safe side.

After the chicks are about three months old thorough culling should be practiced, all the stunted, undersize or otherwise inferior fowls being sent to market or otherwise disposed of and only the best and most vigorous birds being kept as layers and breeders. If this is done each year an improvement will steadily be noticeable in the health of your flock and in their egg-laying capacity.

Poultry keeping is no get-rich-quick scheme, and anyone who imagines he can start right in the business and make a fortune the first year with no experience and little capital had better suspend his poultry operations before he starts them. Money has been, and is being made in the poultry business every day. Many poultry keepers are making their hens pay them several hundred dollars per year and only devoting their spare time to them. But these started their flocks on a small scale and gradually worked them up to their present size by applying their additional experience as they

gained it and reinvesting the money they made out of their fowls back in the business.

The poultry business is the only business of its kind. It is different in that it does not require much capital to start; it can be entered into by anybody; there is no ruinous competition. And the work is all done in God's great out-of-doors. Many run-down office men have regained their health and pulled away from the daily grind and routine of a stuffy office by embarking in poultry keeping.

WHY ALLOW LICE ON YOUR HENS?

The estimated offspring from a single pair of lice in eight weeks is one hundred twenty-five thousand. Lice are insects which inhabit the feathers of the bird. They have not a piercing mouth, but one that is used for biting. The louse subsists on the production of the skin and fragments of feathers. It is not so much what they get as nourishment from the individual that hurts, as the violent itching and pain they cause, especially if present in large numbers.

They also spread as rapidly as they breed. The lice from one individual may spread through the entire flock. Factors which favor their development are poorly ventilated quarters, insufficient food and weak stock. The bird that looks poor and sickly is the one most likely to be infested.



A Fine Flock of a Majestic Breed—The Light Brahma.

Experience is a great teacher, but many unprofitable experiences can be averted by profiting by the experience of others. I have been in the poultry business for some time; in fact, ever since I was a 10-year-old "kid." I have had many experiences, both profitable and unprofitable. I have seen many failures and many successes in poultry keeping.

I have studied the cause of failure, and I have tried to learn the reasons for success. I have applied my ideas to my own poultry plant, and some people tell me I have been unusually successful.

Select Breed You Like.

The first thing for the would-be poultryman to do is, of course, to select the breed of poultry he wants to keep. This problem seems to be a stickler for many beginners. They are apt to be attracted by one variety and about the time they have procured some fowls of that breed, some other breed of poultry seems to have their variety skinner all to nothing when it comes to paying. This is a delusion, of course, but we are all under it at one time or another.

Having selected the variety, it is now up to the beginner to choose the way in which to start. There are several ways, but most beginners seem to prefer to make their start by buying day-old chicks or eggs for hatching. Each would-be poultryman will have to decide for himself which method will best suit his requirements. Each different method has its advantages and disadvantages. By buying a pair, trio or pen of birds, the beginner can usually hatch a good number of chicks during the season.

Buying eggs for hatching is a popular way of starting, but trouble may be encountered in the eggs being unhatchable. Buying day-old chicks seems to have its share of advantages. When buying chicks you know exactly what you are paying for, which is not always the case when buying eggs

for his birds has been in business for many years, and his birds, in many cases, cost him all he gets for them.

The beginner who means business should have at least one poultry house, not necessarily an expensive one, but a good weather-proof house. Apple trees, wagon sheds and dry goods boxes are all right in their place, but the fowls that are supposed to pay you a neat profit deserve something better to roost in. Have a house made out of good well-matched lumber, and your fowls will repay you for your extra expense in larger profits.

Most beginners make the mistake of starting out on too large a scale. They are apt to figure the more fowls they can start in with the larger their profit will be from the start. Nothing could be more erroneous. A flock of 25 hens will pay the novice a larger profit than 100. The amateur who knows little or nothing about poultry cannot profitably care for 100 fowls. I know this from experience. When I first started keeping poultry I thought I knew it all because I had read up a little on the subject. So I was going to have a big flock right away. None of your 25 hen flocks for me! Instead of hatching my chicks under hens, as I should have done, I bought myself a large incubator. I bought several hundred good eggs and, knowing all about incubators, put them in. After about two weeks, during which time the thermometer hovered all the way between 90 and 115 degrees Fahrenheit, I decided that the eggs wouldn't hatch anyway and took them out again. That experience was a costly one, but it was worth it. I saw my mistake, bought a broody hen of a neighbor, set her with 15 eggs and started my poultry business by raising nine chicks the first season.

Feeding and Culling.

The feeding of the chicks is one of the most important parts of poultry culture. Not only does the life of the chick depend on correct feeding, but a chick that is stunted in its early

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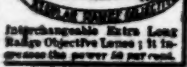
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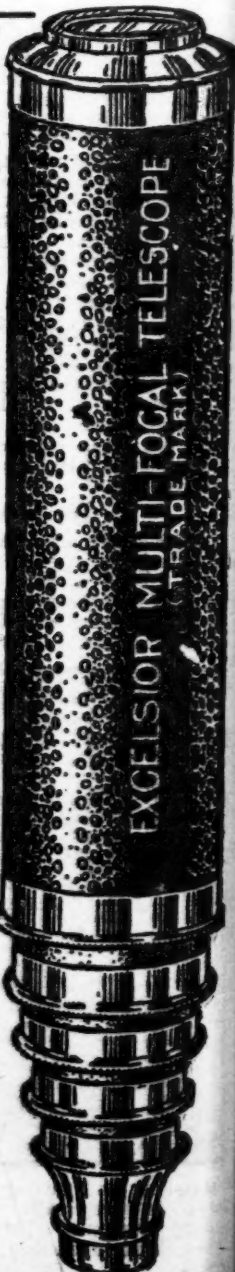


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UPON FARMER DEPENDS FUTURE OF POULTRY INDUSTRY.

There is money in poultry. What we need to learn is how to get it out. Poultry keeping is a science. It demands thought and study. The time has passed when any person could raise poultry and make money. People who fail to make a success of some other business, and then embark in the poultry industry, are not, as a rule, the kind that will be successful in the poultry business. Those not having common sense and intelligence to mix with the food they give their poultry, had better stay out of the business and undertake something easier.

Consumers of eggs and poultry must look to the farmers to produce it. The farmers must furnish the foundation for our poultry industry. Poultry specialists, often, have not proved successful. Some specialists have put \$3,000, \$4,000 and even \$6,000 in poultry plants, and have practically lost it all. When we consider how, and under what considerations, these plants were started, it is little wonder that they failed. There may be a place for the specialist, but it is to the farmer we must look for the future of the poultry industry.

The farmers are peculiarly adapted to the poultry industry. They grow the food at first hand and feed it without other people having profits thereon. A great deal may also be fed that would otherwise go to waste if it were not for the poultry.

The bane of the poultry business on the average farm has been that the hen is honest enough—with some exceptions—to pay for her keep, even when neglected. She, therefore, has been neglected. No branch of live stock yields so readily to improvement in increased production as does poultry. Realizing this, let us make the poultry the best paying branch on our farms.

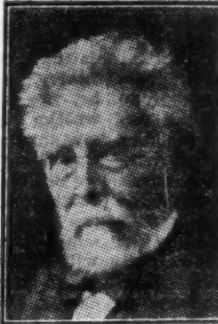
The machinery for successful poultry raising is already installed on most farms. There are but few farmers who have no hens and some place to shelter them. In many cases only a slight expenditure would bring the poultry department up to date. Give the fowls the care and attention that they merit, and that other live stock receives, and the faithful hen will do her part in providing eggs and poultry in abundance for the table and for sale.

PREPARE NOW FOR DEAR EGGS NEXT FALL.

If the farmer wishes to benefit by the high prices that eggs are certain to bring next fall and winter, he should begin to get ready for them at once. The way to have eggs late in the year is to hatch pullets early. It is the early hatches from which the early pullets are derived that are the largest money makers for the poultry producer. The early hatched

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Colman's Rural World strives to bring the greatest good to the greatest number at all times. Each issue is replete with helpfulness and good cheer. It is read for profit and pleasure, and yields a satisfactory return to each individual subscriber. Our advertisers are rewarded with excellent results.



NORMAN J. COLMAN,
First U. S. Secretary of
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Colman's Rural World is published every Thursday at 718 Lucas Avenue. Contributed articles on pertinent subjects are invited. Photographs suitable for reproduction also will be welcomed. Address all communications to COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD, 718 Lucas Ave., St. Louis, Mo.

Entered in the postoffice at St. Louis, Mo., as second-class matter.

Founded by Hon. Norman J. Colman

Published by Colman's Rural World Publishing Co.

1915		FEBRUARY					1915
Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	
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In which there is no smell of hens. Such a house need not be expensive. Where these desirable conditions prevail, it is a much simpler matter to get eggs in winter.

BE READY THIS SEASON TO SOW YOUR SEED EARLY.

The yield per acre of grain at harvest time depends much upon the date of seeding. Experiments conducted for a long period of years with sowing grain at different dates after the land was fit to work have shown conclusively that grain should be sown in the following order: Spring wheat, barley, oats and peas. By actual experiment it has been shown also that an average decrease in yield per acre of 56 pounds of oats, 53 pounds of barley, 29 pounds of spring wheat and 23 pounds of peas resulted for each day's delay in seeding after the first week in which the ground was fit.

Grain farmers who now neglect this matter should plan and be prepared next spring to change their ways. From the foregoing facts, it is apparent that delays in seeding are costly. While it is not advisable in any circumstances to work land before it is fit, all attention should be given to getting the seed in when the proper time has arrived.

HAVE YOU VISITED THE SCHOOL THIS YEAR?

Have you visited the little country school this year? If not, you'd better do so at once before the spring work begins. Have a good visit with the teacher and ask her how she is getting along and if you cannot help her with some of her problems. Accidentally, while you are there, see if the room is well ventilated and if the children who sit near the stove are uncomfortably hot, while those who sit farthest from the stove suffer with the cold. Find out if the children are using an old water pail with a common drinking cup. Watch the children study and see if some do not hold the book too close to their eyes and are injuring their eyesight. Notice if the janitor service is good or if the dust from the floor and blackboards fogs the air which the children must breathe. Why not go to school with the children tomorrow and get your eyes opened, not to find fault, but to find a way to help?

Clover is one of the greatest of soil renovators, physically and chemically. It should be grown on every farm.

In most farming sections of the United States there is a wealth of native material in the way of trees, shrubs and herbaceous plants that might well be drawn upon for the beautifying of the local farm homes. Transplant some of these things from the woods to the home yard and make the farm more interesting and farm life more attractive.

cockerels can be marketed in almost any market in American when they attain a weight of three-fourths of a pound to a pound and a half each, which they should reach at about 6 to 10 weeks of age, respectively, at a greater profit to the producer than at any other time of their lives. The early hatched pullets, if properly grown, should begin to lay in the fall at the time when eggs are scarce and high in price. Remember these facts:

Pullets must be well matured before they will lay many eggs.

Pullets that start to lay in the fall before cold weather sets in will, as a rule, lay all winter.

It is the early hatched pullets that produce eggs in the fall and early winter, when prices are high.

February, March and April are the months to do your hatching in order to secure early hatched pullets.

Yearling and 2-year-old hens do not lay many eggs in the fall, as they are molting at that time, and the feed they consume goes not only to keep up the energy and life of the bird but also to put on or grow a new coat of feathers.

In properly matured pullets all surplus energy beyond that needed to meet the requirements of the body is available for the production of eggs.

To find sermons in stones, books in running brooks and good in everything, one must have an understanding with nature.

40 Years Ago — 20 Years Ago

In Colman's Rural World.

(Issue of Feb. 13, 1875.)

It is estimated that about six per cent of cattle, and about nine per cent of sheep and swine, nearly 600,000 in all, annually die on the passage to market from the West, and a large portion of these are sold in our markets, either as meat or rendered into cooking lard.

Debt is the principal thing which has ruined the country (Arkansas). Many are in debt who will never pay out. The only way we ever will pay out, is to quit raising cotton and go to raising corn, wheat, oats and stock.

(Issue of Feb. 14, 1895.)

The fact that Austria has made heavy purchases of American trotters in the New York market during the past year is worthy of more than passing note. . . . The time is not far distant when the demand will far exceed the supply.

Nearly every important state in the Union is taking steps to make the sale of oleomargarine as butter a felony. The day is not far distant when it will be found necessary to prohibit the manufacture and sale of all imitation or fraudulent compounds, unless bearing the brand of their own character.

Buying An Incubator

Justified by Any Poultry Keeper Who Raises Fifty or More Chicks a Year.

By J. A. Reid, Pennsylvania.

EVERY poultry keeper at one time or another gets tired of putting up with the whims and fancies of the faithful old hen, and decides to end it all by procuring an incubator and hatching his chicks artificially. However, to the hen-tired poultry keeper the incubator is apt to look more attractive than it really is. It means a lot of work to hatch a large number of chicks with hens, and in looking around for a more satisfactory and easier way, every poultry raiser will some time during his career decide that the incubator has the hen beaten to a frazzle. "The hens may be all right when it comes to laying eggs, but they make mighty poor hatchers" is the way he usually puts it.

The would-be incubator user usually reasons something like this: "If I had an incubator to hatch my chicks in, it would be entirely my fault for not running it right if the hatch was spoiled; if the hens want to spoil a hatch, I am powerless to stop them." This reasoning is right and good so far as it goes, but why is it that that very same poultry raiser "cusses" all incubators and incubator manufacturers in general when he hasn't intelligence enough to follow the directions that came with the incubator and spoils an incubator full of eggs?

Some Causes of Failure.

Probably all incubator failures are due to negligence on the part of the operator. Either he does not understand how the machine works, or he has not sense enough to follow the directions that came with his incubator. The latter cases are hopeless. The former will be cured in time. We all have a certain amount of "tinkeritis" in our systems, and the incubator operator is no exception. After having spoiled a few hatches he will usually be more careful, and eventually get good hatches.

There are some old-time poultry raisers, poultry raisers who have been unusually successful in hatching and raising chicks by the hen method, who can do absolutely nothing with an incubator. They evidently cannot adapt themselves to the new plan, and will do far better to continue in the old way. But the average poultry raiser will have no trouble in hatching chicks in an incubator, providing he thoroughly understands the machine he is working with.

Making a Start.

There are so many different styles and makes of incubators on the market, nearly all of which do good work, that it is impossible to give directions for operating them. Every poultryman will have to select the particular style of incubator that suits him the best, and run it according to the directions that accompany it. If you have had no previous experience in running an incubator of the same make, the lamp should be lit and left burning for a few days before placing any eggs in the incubator. In this way you will learn how the machine works. Don't put any eggs into the incubator until the thermometer has been steadily registering 103 for a few days.

There is another difference between hatching chicks in incubators and hatching them with hens. When the chicks are hatched by hens, the hens also raise them. When they are hatched in an incubator the incubator could not possibly be expected to raise them, but instead they must be raised by some other means. A heated brooder will prove satisfactory, but I have found a better way. When the poultry raiser buys an incubator to hatch his chickens in, his hens usually do not accede to his wishes and stop getting the hatching fever. Indeed, it seems to the poultryman that they are more inclined to be broody than ever. These broody hens will make the best possible chick raisers. If the hen and chicks are quartered in a warm coop, one hen

can easily take care of twenty-five.

Incubators Necessary.

It's useless to try and say that hens beat incubators in hatching chicks; they don't. None of our large poultry farms, where thousands upon thousands of chicks are hatched annually, would be possible were they obliged to hatch all their chicks with hens. But there is a big difference between a large poultry farm and the farmer's flock of poultry. An investment in an incubator would not be justified by any one who raises less than fifty chickens each year. Less than this number can be hatched to much better advantage by hens than in an incubator. But when a hundred or more chicks are to be hatched, that's different. The farmer who is planning to raise one hundred chicks will find a small incubator to be a good investment.

ABOUT BANTAMS.

Bantam fowls are generally looked upon as mere pets, but as a matter of fact they have many strong economic

cal points and useful qualities. Five Bantams can be kept in the space required for two of the large or three of the small sized breeds. Leghorns or Hamburgs, for instance. They afford good meat, and are great layers as a rule. The Black Africans rival the Leghorn for number of eggs produced, while 15 of their eggs will go as far in cooking as 12 of most breeds, so that for small quarters, what one loses in size, one makes up in numbers.

Game Bantams are especially good eating, and if hung until a trifle "gamy" and cooked as quail should be, are no mean substitute for that worthy bird. It is said that some restaurants make this substitution. One having room for say 20 hens only would do well to occupy it with 50 Bantams. The Black Africans are not setters in many cases, but a couple or more of good old "biddies" will help out here. For small back yards Bantams are of great value. Cochins Bantams produce the largest eggs, and are the most docile of any of the little breed, but all of them are easily tamed. All the varieties except the Cochins require netting over their yards for they can fly like quail.

If you want to cut the wings off your fowls so that it will not disfigure them leave the two long flight feathers uncut and when the wing is folded it will have no chopped off look. The effect as to flying will be the same as the old ugly way.

HAVE A GOOD BREED AND FEED FOR EGGS.

There are two elements of success with hens—feed and breed. The housing of the egg producing hen needs to be only a verminless shelter.

The kind of breed to have depends upon location and the taste of the owner. There are sluggards and non-producers in every breed. Such should be culled carefully. It is better to sell a hen that will merely pay her board bill than to run the risk of keeping one that will eat her head off.

Where poultry are confined the diet is different from those with a free range. The following ration gives good returns for the farm flock:—Equal parts of crushed cob and corn meal, wheat, rye and oats, ground coarse, and one-third the amount of cotton seed meal; mix thoroughly. Feed either dry or in a hot mash in the mornings. Use sheaf oats and millet hay for litter. Give warm sweet milk or water in clean vessels. Feed shelled corn at night. Have a generous pile of lime and sand kept handy.

When the ground is frozen, meat bones, ground up, cooked vegetables, meat scraps, charcoal, etc., are given. Dry ashes are kept handy to wallow or dust in.

As to the amount, I give what they will eat freely. A hungry hen will not produce eggs. Just as well run an empty threshing machine and expect to get a full measure of gain.—Mrs. D. B. Phillips, Tennessee.

EGG-PRODUCING RATION FOR HENS.

At Purdue Experiment Station a ration which is recommended for laying hens is one of corn, 10 pounds; wheat, 10 pounds; oats, 5 pounds. The dry mash, fed at the same time but from a separate hopper consists of bran, 5 pounds; shorts, 5 pounds, and meat scraps, 3½ pounds. In addition to the feeds, it is also necessary to include green feed, grit, oyster shell and water in abundance and as much as the fowls will consume along with their grain and mash. With this treatment the flesh and egg forming elements are furnished in the proper proportions with the elements which produce fat, heat and energy and what is called a balanced ration is had.

Care must be exercised in the feeding. The mixed grains should be fed in the morning, in a deep litter to induce exercise, and more heavily again in the evening. The heavy feed comes at night because the fowls are not able to pick up scraps of feed during the night as they are during the day and it is well to have them go to roost with their crops full. The dry mash is kept in a hopper.



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Crowless Roosters for Meat and Money

By George Beuoy, Kansas.

HALF the birds produced each season are males; the problem is what to do with this half of the flock. Only a very small part can be used or sold as breeders; the remainder must be eaten or sold for that purpose. As they are mostly hatched in the spring, the male half of your flock will reach frying size at or about the same time as the rest of the world's supply. To attempt to eat this tremendous production of young roosters at that time would turn the national stomach "forever against America's greatest food supply." Only one sensible, practicable way presents itself in solution of this problem. Caponize the young rooster at the proper time and you increase the amount and quality of his flesh, and make it possible to market the bird at a season when the market is the best. Furthermore, if you caponize all of your roosters, you can guarantee and infertile egg, which nowadays is demanded by the market.

Two years ago Missouri did not produce enough capons to supply her own markets and capons were shipped in from eastern states. Last spring, in less than 90 days one produce house in a principal market of this state shipped to eastern markets over \$10,000 worth of capons more than the markets of this state required. Other markets throughout the state also shipped capons east.

There is Money in Them.

High prices are paid for capons by the pound, and for these reasons capons are the best "eating" to be had at any price. They reach the market at a time of year when all other poultry is scarce and very high. Spring-hatched capons should be ready for the market during February, March and April. These are the months when hens are laying their best and no poultry raiser would part with laying hens at this time. It is too early for young chickens. Only capons are available for market sales.

A two-pound cockerel makes a 10-pound capon; so, by the simple operation of caponizing, we increase half the poultry market each year five times,—surely a real service to mankind. And we find the capon at his best during the months when, without him, there would be no fresh poultry on the market.

The poultry fancier who does not know how and does not practice caponizing is behind the times. In every flock, no matter how good, there

are always some of the young males which are not strictly first-class, and even if sold as breeders they would command only a small price. These cheap breeding cockerels are the ones that cause dissatisfaction and are the ones that cause most of the trouble in the pure-bred business. Usually they are sold at two for \$5 and often for less. Every pure-bred breeder should caponize every male that will not bring \$5 and be worth it as a breeder. Capons will sell for more than a cockerel on the market, and you can let the capons all go at one time and get the money in a lump sum and without unnecessary correspondence.

Caponizing is the best thing that ever happened for the fancier and pure-bred breeder. When caponizing becomes general and the farmer and average poultry raiser takes it up in earnest, they will then have a sure and profitable market for their own male birds. The temptation to use them as breeders at once disappears. The capons bring them the cash and, of course, the farmers turn some of it over to the pure-bred breeder and the fancier for new blood and breeding cockerels. They have learned the value of a capon and do not expect a good breeding male for less than he would have brought as a capon.

Save all the poultry manure. It is very rich in nitrogen, the high-priced ingredient of a fertilizer.

"INVINCIBLE, UNSURPASSABLE, WITHOUT A PEER"

Writes a regular subscriber, who has read it for many years, of the TWICE-A-WEEK issue of the

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How I Make Poultry Pay

In Nine Months, \$721.57 Net From 300 Hens.

A Story of Encouragement.

By Mrs. Geo. L. Russell, Missouri.

It is a pleasure for me to tell about my flock of chickens, a flock that has not been expensively bred or widely advertised, but which paid me \$721.57 in nine months, from January 1 to October 1, last year. Our chickens are considered part of the farm work. When cleaning-up time comes, and that is often, the men go in with the wagon and in a few hours' time clean all the houses and yards.

This cleaning is one of the most essential things in making poultry profitable. It is the neglect of this one thing more than anything else that lessens the profits of most farm flocks. If the men neglect their part of the work, can you expect the women to do theirs? I believe, however, that if the farmers can be made to realize that chickens can be made the most profitable part of the farm with the least amount of money invested and the least work, if done at the proper time, they, too, will take an interest.

Our flock is composed of 300 single comb Brown Leghorns exclusively. We have been breeding this breed for five years and have been trying to produce a good laying strain. We feel that we are succeeding. While it is not possible for us to take the time necessary for trap-nesting, we have been following the best methods of selecting the egg-type hen and breeding from these. Each fall our flock is carefully examined and hens that are not of the egg type are sold on the market. By studying the methods of other poultry raisers and the results of the several experiment stations, we feel that we have made vast improvement in our flock. While we have been breeding for egg production, we have also been breeding with show qualifications in mind. We are trying to breed Brown Leghorns that will lay and will also conform to the present American standard.

Our chickens have free range most of the time. The breeding pens are large and this reduces the feeding expense. On most farms there is always more or less ground around the hen house that is not used for any especial purpose. We have made use of all such ground and with very little fencing. It has been sown to feed of some kind, sometimes wheat, oats, rape, cowpeas and corn or kafir corn. The chickens do the harvesting and all this saves on the feed bill wonderfully. The ground is also purified by the use of these crops.

Picks Out Best for Laying.

We find that it does not pay to feed the whole flock in winter for egg production, so each fall we select our oldest pullets and best yearling hens and place them in a house to themselves. This house has one-half acre yard and is sown in wheat or rye for winter pasture. In this way we feed egg-producing feed to hens that will lay in winter and are not wasting feed on hens that will not lay before spring. The rest of the flock and the roosters have the other two houses and are fed just enough to keep them in good healthy condition.

Our laying house is 50 feet long and 10 feet wide; the middle part is open-front with muslin curtains. We keep a deep litter of straw on the floor to make the hens work for their grain. In the morning they are fed wheat or oats, sometimes both, and at night shelled corn. They have a long home-made hopper filled with a dry mash consisting of two parts bran, one part cornmeal, one part shorts and two-fifths parts commercial meat scraps with a little salt added to the mixture. Their yard furnishes green feed for them as long as the weather stays open; this leaves only about two months to feed sprouted oats. They have boxes of oyster shell, grit, and charcoal before them all the time, also plenty of clean water. When we have had well matured pullets and followed the above method, we have had no trouble in getting winter eggs.

By systematizing the work in view

of saving labor, I spend no more time attending my flock than the general farm woman. We have all the feed in convenient places and the water piped into the yards. The piping of the water did not cost much, as pipe is cheap and the farm hands did the work, but it saves more labor than any convenience that I have and the chickens have a constant supply of good water, which is a necessity for profitable egg production.

Uses Incubators.

We use incubators for hatching purposes as it is not possible to have early-hatched chicks with Leghorn hens, as they are not early sitters. It is the early hatched chicks that are the money makers. Our best winter egg records have been when we have had early hatched pullets in the laying house. The early hatched cockerels are profitable, too. All that are not good enough to sell later on as breeders are sold on the market and bring about twice as much as the later hatched chicks.

When the little chicks are dry, we remove them from the incubator and place them on top in soft-lined baskets or boxes. Their first feed is given when they are from 48 to 72 hours old. It consists of a little sand, rolled oats and dry wheat bran, sprinkled in their boxes. I have best success when I teach them to eat and drink before I take them to the brooder house.

Our brooder house is 10 by 12 feet. The south side is nearly all windows so that the sunlight will be on the floor. Timothy hay chaff makes a fine litter for them to scratch in. In the spring of 1913, our barn burned on the day the chicks were ready to put out, and all the chaff was burned. I sent one of the men over to a neighbor's with sacks to get chaff, which caused much amusement. Nevertheless, the neighbors often dropped in and watched that same bunch of chicks working for their feed and later on, when they were eating early fried chicken with me, they were glad they had chaff to give.

Method of Brooding.

We heat the brooder house with an old stove which is separated from the chicks by means of wire netting. In day time they have the run of the whole house, but at night are separated into pens of about 50 each, with wire panels. Each pen has a home-made hover which has proven very successful.

More incubator chicks are lost by poor methods of brooding them by improper feeding. The most essential part in a hover is to have it so constructed that it will have plenty of fresh air. Ours are small square frames (an old picture frame is just the thing) with legs about three inches long nailed in each corner. Cover this frame with wire netting and tie to it strips of woolen cloth cut into fringe, letting it hang almost to the floor. This admits plenty of fresh air and the woolen fringe keeps them warm in a heated room.

I continue feeding rolled oats for several days when fine chopped corn and wheat is added to the scratch feed. As soon as they are put in the brooder house, little hoppers are filled with dry wheat bran mixed with a little ground charcoal. This is kept before them all the time. If possible I give no other drink but sour milk until they are 10 or 12 days old. This gives them a good start and the dreaded white diarrhoea is not apt to appear later than this. At the end of about three weeks, the rolled oats are eliminated and they are fed corn and wheat. We buy rolled oats by the hundred pounds, it being very little higher in price than other feeds.

Little chicks are not hard to raise if they can have plenty of attention. They take almost constant care until they are two weeks old. Last spring I lost 500 of my earliest ones through inability to care for them myself. It was one cold day in early March and

The Next Time You See THIS in Your Hog Lot Send for THIS



When your hogs rub against fence posts, buildings, trees, etc., look out for lice. It's a pretty good sign that blood-sucking parasites are at work in your herd. If neglected they will multiply by the thousands—soon infest the whole herd—keep your animals thin—stunt their growth—sap their vitality and invite cholera and other contagious diseases on to your farm. Dips are helpful but expensive—often dangerous and always troublesome. Why not let your hogs rid themselves of lice, mange and other skin diseases in the natural way. Let them rub against a **Rowe's New Rubbing Post** 30 days at my risk. I'll furnish the Posts and the Oil and pay the freight. The trial won't cost you a cent. You simply watch results and pay if pleased.

Rowe's New Rubbing Posts

are simpler, safer, more durable and more economical than any other—use any kind of oil, crude or medicated. Have no valves, nothing to get out of order. Work in all kinds of weather the year round. Dirt can't clog them as it does valve and cylinder machines. Rain can't wash out oil. No oil wasted. Every drop is applied as needed right on the itch when the hog rubs. Fits all sizes and ages can rub on these posts and keep vermin-free and healthy. Three rubbing bars to each Post. One Post accommodates 25 pigs.

Try Them 30 Days FREE—Pay if Pleased

Just write and tell me how many Posts you want to try 30 days at my risk. I'll furnish the Machines, Oil, everything and even pay the freight to prove my claims. Send no money. Order direct from this advertisement or if you prefer write for big illustrated folder today.

Alvin E. Rowe, Pres., ROWE MFG. CO., 742 Liberty St., GALESDALE, ILL.
Also Makers of famous Can't-Sag Gates

the little fellows found a hole in the wire netting, got to the stove and crowded under, getting too warm. They all died in about five days from the effects of it. I was discouraged, but kept on trying and in the fall I had as nice a bunch of pullets and cockerels as I ever raised.

We mark our pullets each year so as to know their age. We use either leg bands or a poultry punch. I prefer the punch.

Renewing the Flock.

Our greatest difficulty in our poultry work is in being able to renew our flock each year with enough pullets. I have reasonable success in raising my chicks to frying size and count the pullets at that age. In the fall, when they are being put into winter quarters, they always fall short in members. What becomes of them and how to avoid it puzzles me. We have had some stolen and the varmints make away with some. Then, too, some years we have hogs that cultivate a taste for chickens. I believe that farmers lose thousands of dollars' worth of poultry each year through hogs. When we build our new hen house, it will be farther away from the hog pens and houses.

Until last year we always sold our eggs on the common market and never thought much about a special egg market. At the end of 1913, I estimated how many eggs I had sold that year, and it amounted to 1,630 dozen. If I had received 5 cents more on the dozen, it would have given me \$81.50 more profit, as the expense of the labor would have been very little more. I resolved to find a better egg market and we had quite a little experience in finding one. We finally found a reliable creamery firm in Kansas City that paid us 1 cent above first quotations and returned the cases. This was about 5 cents more than we could get at home for them.

Last spring we spent about \$25 for advertising eggs for hatching, and the investment paid us well. We sold our eggs at reasonable prices and sold many eggs, but this market does not last long.

From January 1 to October 1, nine

You Can't Beat Galloway Prices and Quality!

My New Low Down No. 8 Separator

with cut under front wheels and trussed channel steel frame is positively the best separator in the world. Light draft, endless apron, positive force feed, double chain drive. Just ask for my book, "A Scream of Gold," FREE, and I will tell you the truth about manure separators and how to get the greatest profit out of your manure products.

Sanitary Cream Separator

I will send it anywhere in the United States without an expert to set it up in any location. Perfect cream separator user for a 30-day free trial, to test thoroughly against any make of separator that even sells for twice as much and will let you be the judge. Built up to a high standard and not down to a price. Travel 20,000 miles, look over every factory in the world and you can't find its superior at any price. It's the most sanitary, most scientific, cleanest skimmer, the most beautiful in design of any cream separator made today and I have seen them all. A postal gets our big free Separator catalog and 1915 sliding scale, profit-sharing price schedule.

GALLOWAY MASTERPIECE NO. 6

Positively supreme in power, simplicity and design. All our years of engine building are built into it. A mechanical masterpiece. Long life and satisfaction to engine users are built into every one of these Galloway Masterpiece Big Six Engines. Great volume, perfected design and simplicity are what make this price possible. A heavy weight, heavy duty, large bore and long stroke engine not overrated. Get right on engines before you buy one. Get my free engine book before you buy an engine at any price.

Wm. Galloway, President, The Wm. Galloway Co., 1847 Galloway Station, Waterloo, Iowa

\$42.50
10-year guarantee.
800 lbs. Cap.

\$98.75
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Here we go again breaking all records to introduce our new, nobby, ahead-of-the-time styles. Be the first in your town to wear an advanced style made to your exact measure and delivered free. Earn it while you wear it. There is **\$50 to \$100 a Week** in it for you. Drop us a postal now for our free advance sample book—select the style and cloth you want. Let us prove how you can get your own suit free. Get busy. Send us your name and address now.

PARAGON TAILORING CO., East 268, CHICAGO

Razor FREE!

Guaranteed Genuine Hollow Ground.

The blank from which the Razor below is ground is forged from high grade special alloy steel, manufactured for this particular razor. The blank is ground on a 3-inch wheel with bevel reinforced and shaped to stand more than average amount of abuse. The idea being to give the user a razor which will give excellent service on either light or heavy beard, and one that can be kept in perfect condition with minimum honing and stropping. The razor is well balanced, of first class finish, mounted in a flexible black rubber handle and guaranteed unconditionally.

OUR FREE OFFER. We will send this razor free and postpaid to anyone who will send us one dollar to pay for a one-year subscription (new or renewal) to Colman's Rural World.

COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD, St. Louis, Mo.



months, we have sold \$571.57 in eggs and stock. The young stock we had left on the place would easily bring me \$310 if I cared to sell it; however, we kept all the pullets (and since then we have sold the majority of the cockerels). This makes a total of \$881.57 on the credit side. I have kept account of all the feed and it amounts to \$131.60. Our advertising and baskets was \$28.40. Or a total expense of \$160. This leaves a net profit of \$721.57 for nine months, or \$80.15 a month. This may seem small to those who are running commercial egg farms, but for a farm flock I am not ashamed of my efforts, and in comparison with other farm flocks that I know, it makes a good showing.

What the Profits Were.

One day last spring I was talking to one of my neighbors who has about the same size flock as mine but was of a different breed. She said her hens had not laid all winter and was just selling her first case that day. She would hardly believe it when I told her that I had sold \$75.00 worth of eggs in March, which was my largest sales for the nine months. This was an unusual case, however, as most farm flocks lay well for a few months in the early spring.

I was talking to one of our leading merchants a year or so ago, just before the drouth ended. He was feeling blue and said to me, "Mrs. Russell, the farmers haven't the money to pay their bills and it makes it hard on us." "Don't you get in any eggs?" I asked. "If it weren't for the eggs and chickens, we wouldn't be here. But you would be surprised to know of the farmers that do not sell an egg or any kind of produce. They say there isn't any money in such things."

Horses vs. Hens.

Now, isn't there? Let me give you a few figures from our farm. During the last eight years we have averaged having seven brood mares on the place, worth about \$200 each. We have sold from these \$2,280 in colts. During the same time we have kept from 150 to 300 hens. I have sold from these hens \$2,012.68. The mares show an investment of some 1,400, while the chickens are only valued at \$200 to \$300 at most. Which do you consider the best investment? Then, too, we have lost one mare every two years, which takes \$700 or \$800 off of the profit of the mare investment.

We are planning some improvements for next year. We do not intend to go into the commercial egg-farming business, but we want to give our chickens a chance to pay us the largest profit possible with a minimum amount of labor. It will take good equipment for this. We are going to increase our flock to 500 hens, build them a modern laying house 20 feet by 100 feet with all the labor-saving equipment that we know of. We are going to try to make these 500 single comb Brown Leghorns pay us a net profit of \$1,000 a year.

HOW TO RAISE PRIZE-WINNING TURKEYS.

I will tell how I started in the turkey business, and how I finally was successful in raising birds good enough to win in our great Missouri State Poultry Show. I bought two hens and a tom to start with. From these, I set 43 eggs. One morning I took 40 bright-eyed fluffy turks from the nests and with the mother turk, placed them in a run prepared for them. That night it commenced to rain and it seemed to me like, as of old, "40 days and 40 nights the rain it kept a-dropping." In fact, it was only about 10 days of cloudy, drizzly weather. I fed and petted and watched the 40 dwindle and dwindle, one at a time, sometimes two, until 13 alone remained. At selling time there still remained 11. When I hauled them to market at 8 cents a pound, discovered that four had crooked breasts; these were docked as culls at 6 cents.

The following January my husband and I made it a point to attend the Midwest Poultry Show at Kansas City. There I invested the entire returns from my turkey crop in a pair of turkeys, bought from the winning flock. I raised 21 turkeys that time, and went back to the show, bought the yearling tom that won first place, and next year back again. Meanwhile I bought a standard and studied the

points of a perfect specimen, also I studied the habits of my birds. This time I went to the show, I selected and bought the young tom that when passed on won first in the class, and next year, I made an exhibit at our great state show, winning first cock one year, first pullet and second hen. Since then I have been winning wherever my birds were shown.

Care and Feed.

Turkey habits are different from most fowls. They are wild by nature. More turkeys are killed by over-care than by lack of it. A lady once called me by telephone and said: "My turkeys are dying. The little things just eat and eat and then just die." She was feeding all the hard-boiled eggs and bread crumbs they would pick up. Poor little turks! Poor woman! The turks had a case of indigestion, the woman a case of misplaced kindness.

I hatch my young turkeys mostly under chicken hens. The turkey hen sets only a short time. A piped egg from those under the chicken hen is placed under a broody turkey hen at

night and she is left to come off with her brood of one. Then she is caught, dusted thoroughly with insect powder and placed in the run prepared for her. The other wee ones have been nestling snug and warm in a soft-lined basket, and are brought and placed near her just inside the run. She is left a few hours to get acquainted.

When about 48 hours old, the first feed is given, which consists of stale light bread dipped in sweet milk, pressed dry, and sprinkled lightly with a tablespoonful black pepper to 15 or 20 turks. This is given four or five times a day for a few days, adding hard-boiled eggs at noon, and lettuce leaves and onion top cut fine with scissors.

Let them range on a grass-covered plot, but not too far until three weeks old, always confining them at night until the dew is dried off mornings, and calling them back to the runs early of evenings. Keep clean fresh water near them. Keep the mother well fed and be sure to guard against

lice. The hen is thoroughly dusted with insect powder before giving her the wee ones, and once a week until six weeks old each little fellow is caught and dusted, being sure to get the powder well down to the quill ends of the wing feathers. Don't house your turkeys in close buildings, and don't try to raise with a chicken mother. Don't over-feed.

Don't raise scrub stock. Get your foundation from some line which is rich in vigor, strength and vitality. Avoid inbreeding.

In raising prize winners, we cannot fail to appreciate the wonderful beauty, the rich bronze color, the black, the brown and the clear white, all arranged in perfect harmony, painted by the hand of nature. While all turkeys raised are not prize winners, all are money-makers. So, if you fall once, try again. Visit the big shows, go home, and go back again. But don't give up the turk!—From an address delivered by Mrs. E. M. Scott, of Lathrop, Mo., at the Missouri State Poultry Show, St. Louis.

Get These Three Dolls

In every home where there are little girls or boys there should be plenty of dolls to make the little folks happy—and I will make it easy for you to get them.

Every little girl or boy will love Anna Belle and her two baby dolls. The illustrations on this page do not begin to show to you what these dolls really are. This is by far the prettiest family of dolls we have ever offered our readers. We have sent thousands of dollies to girls and boys, but Anna Belle is different and prettier than all others. Anna Belle is bigger than a baby—over two feet high—baby clothes will fit her and you can bend her legs and arms without fear of breaking them. She can sit up in a chair or sleep in baby's own bed. Any little girl or boy would be proud to have Anna Belle as a playmate. The two smaller dollies are "Buster" and "Betsy"—Buster is a husky boy doll with a red striped sweater; "Betsy" is a little beauty and very lovable in her bright red coat. Both the little dollies are fully dressed.

The Best Playmates

Any child will be greatly amused with this doll family and will play all day with Anna Belle, Buster and Betsy. They are practically unbreakable and will stand hard usage for years. These dollies are better for the little folks than bisque or china dolls, because they won't break, soil their pretty hair or lose their eyes, and are so inexpensive every girl or boy reader can afford to own them.

Parents

Every little girl wants a big doll. Little boys also. Think of the innocent happiness and pleasure your child would derive from owning these three dolls. Then satisfy the craving for something to love and something to play with by sending for this outfit.

Lots of Fun

to be had with these three dolls. The little girl or toddling boy who owns these dolls will just be the happiest little tyke to be found for miles around. The big little girl who owns Annabell can dress her in her own clothes and have the loveliest time! Then the baby dollies—to cut and sew for—what could be more instructive and entertaining?

Don't Miss This Opportunity

Every little girl or boy wants a big doll—here's an opportunity to get three dollies instead of one. Just think what fun it would be to have a doll family in your home. Think of the joy and happiness of the little ones when they get this delightful set of three dollies.

Special 30-Day Offer

To introduce this big collection of dolls we will send one complete set (3 dolls) to you if you will sign the coupon below, and return it to us at once with 15 cents. If you are not entirely satisfied when you get the dolls we will return your money. Most dolls are imported and there is going to be a great scarcity this year, so we advise you to order early.



Bigger Than a Baby

SPECIAL 30-DAY OFFER

People's Supply Co., St. Louis, Mo.

Enclosed is 15 cents (stamps or coin) for which send me one set of dolls as advertised.

Name

P. O. State

Geese Plus Grass Means Greenbacks

By Mrs. Benjamin Daelhousen, Missouri.

THE goose flock should be started with the best birds that you are financially able to buy. A pair that has not been conditioned for the show room that season is best, for a fat goose seldom lays with any degree of regularity; the eggs are misshaped and weak shelled, often infertile. Buy geese in preference to eggs as you see the breeding stock and know just what characteristics to expect in the young. You also have the parent birds to attend to the incubation of the eggs and the brooding of the flock.

The breeding season in Missouri is governed by the weather, generally from January 20 through the months of February and March. The breeding stock should have a yard or pasture with an open shed in which to shelter from snows and wind. The ground floor should be covered with straw to absorb the moisture and prevent leg disease. Feed the breeding stock sparingly, giving very little corn. A part of the chicken mash in extreme weather, potato parings, mangels and clover or alfalfa scalded makes a much relished ration. There will not be over a month or six weeks of weather bad enough to prevent them making their own way.

Provide Water for Swimming.

Give them a swimming pool of some description for breeding season. If you want high fertility in the eggs, you must follow nature's plan, for it is the natural instinct of geese to mate on the water, and in no other way will you get 100 per cent of fertile eggs. They take also the utmost care regarding their bath and are always free from vermin and almost exempt from diseases of any kind. Some authorities claim to raise geese without water, save for drinking purposes. Try it if you will, but many of your eggs will be clear, and your birds ragged and unkempt.

The geese usually pair off, and I have known them to continue with the same mates in the most perfect domestic tranquility the rest of their lives, establishing a home each season and rearing their young. You will fail in a large measure if you attempt to mate three or four geese with only one gander. The geese are quarrelsome and fighting and infertile eggs will generally result. If the ganders fight, I select a mate for each one and shut them from sight of the others until the nesting idea is formed, then they may run together again. If you visit the nests and remove the eggs, you start a discord; leave them to the goose and she will cover them so that no wind or temperature change will injure them. I have known the geese to go to the nests after sundown and pile on additional sand or straw if the night bid fair to be a cold one.

Hatch Under Geese.

The goose lays from 14 to 20 eggs, 16 is a good flock average. I do not advise the practice of having the goose lay two litters of eggs in one season. Let her incubate the first eggs and she will raise at least 14 goslings from 16 eggs. I have hatched goslings in incubators and under hens; in both cases, the eggs must be turned and sprinkled, and no amount of labor will bring the same number of sturdy goslings that mother goose will hatch. The second laying makes the goslings late and small and, if it is a season of drouth, the grass is too tough and dry for them to relish and a gosling without grass is worse than none at all.

Geese generally hatch their young in the month of April. They start them with the grass and it is tender enough then for them to handle nicely.

When seven months old, they are generally about grown, weighing from 14 to 17 pounds. The standard requires the young goose to weigh 16 and the gander 18 pounds, but if they are two pounds lighter and have good bone and broad frame, they can be conditioned to weight in 10 days or two weeks. If they are to serve as breeders instead of in the show room, leave them in thin flesh, for the buyer who

knows his business wants bone and muscle, rather than fat and feathers.

Big Demand for Breeders.

For their beauty and purity, I prefer the Emden geese, but it would be foolish to raise Emden geese for market purposes, as it will take many years to supply the demand for standard breeders, but the market affords a good place for the culls. All flocks have culls. They may be heavy enough, but have that small spreading leg we are so anxious to eradicate. Their wings may droop or bow wrong, or they may be small boned or off in general conformation. But when sold dressed, they more than pay the feed bill of the rest of the flock, and their feathers are preferred above every other fowl, excepting the ostrich. The carcass when dressed is as white as marble, and free from unsightly down or pin feathers; it commands from 3 to 5 cents more per pound than the dark skinned geese. In the large cities the guaranteed Emden feathers bring from \$1 to \$1.30 a pound, and one goose will yield a half-pound of feathers every six weeks. Show birds and breeding geese should not be picked.

As to the actual profit in geese, three pairs of splendid Emdens should make the foundation for a fine flock. They should be from two to ten years of age, and would cost about \$30. They should mature, at the least calculation, 40 goslings, 35 of which should be as good as the parent birds. These latter should bring as breeding stock, \$5 each or \$175 for your \$30 invested. The other five fattened for table or market would pay for the feed of the entire flock for the summer. So, if you want to turn grass into greenbacks, raise Emden geese.

HOW TO CONDUCT A PEKIN DUCK RANCH.

The first essential in the running of a profitable duck ranch, is to have a man who is determined to succeed.



A Pair of Pekin Ducks.

The next most important is the foundation stock. More people have come to grief on this one thing alone than all others. It will not do to take eggs laid by any old duck, as if the bird is over-fat, (as is generally the case) it will lay eggs that are of a very low vitality, and the ducklings that do hatch have so poor vitality, they are soon counted with the "great majority." To get good eggs or stock we must go to a reliable breeder, who makes a specialty of this, and get birds who have been fed right to produce strong fertile eggs, or eggs that come from a strong stock.

The incubator you intend to hatch in is also an important factor. Our advice would be to be very particular, and get one that gives the largest amount of fresh air to the eggs during incubation, as we believe that this is the greatest factor in the successful hatching of duck eggs arti-


cially; moisture should also be used, and eggs sprinkled every day the last three weeks.

Ducklings should be hatched the proper time to catch the highest market; this you must figure out yourself as it all depends on the market. If a summer resort trade is to be supplied, then you can have them come just when wanted, if a large city trade that demands the birds at highest price when out of season, then is when you must have them to get the most profit. And right here we will say that it is possible to have your ducklings come any time of the year. This past season, there were just two weeks that we did not hatch ducks, and we propose this year to hatch every week.

There is one thing in brooding young ducklings that causes the beginner much trouble, and that is mortality in his early flocks caused by leg weakness, where the leg swells up, and the knees are enlarged, and they cannot walk, and soon die. This is caused by brooding them in too hot a temperature. They will not stand as much heat as chicks, and must be weaned from any hover at not older than three weeks. Then room-heat to 60 to 70 degrees is sufficient. There is just one rule to remember in feeding, and if properly applied, will come out all right. Start with a large amount of bran and a small amount of cornmeal, and animal food, and as they grow gradually increase meal and animal food and reduce the bran. Start at four parts bran, one part cornmeal, and one-quarter part beef scraps, and finish at four parts cornmeal, one part bran, and one-half part

beef scrap. We have found pork scraps instead of beef better to fatten the last two weeks.—F. A. D.

Right now is the best time to make a new start with poultry—high-class fowls. Hunt for healthy, vigorous stock.



124% Profit

Yes! 124% profit on every dollar expended for suitable plantfood—that was the return shown in an investigation by the Purdue Agricultural Experiment Station.

Read how this can be done.

Our free Special Crop Bulletins on corn, oats, wheat, potatoes, alfalfa, etc., tell how you can do this on your farm.

The Middle West Soil Improvement Committee
of the National Fertilizer Association
919 Postal Telegraph Bldg.
CHICAGO

The Telephone Unites the Nation



AT this time, our country looms large on the world horizon as an example of the popular faith in the underlying principles of the republic.

We are truly one people in all that the forefathers, in their most exalted moments, meant by that phrase.

In making us a homogeneous people, the railroad, the telegraph and the telephone have been important factors. They have facilitated communication and intervisiting, bringing us closer together, giving us a better understanding and promoting more intimate relations.

The telephone has played its part as the situation has required. That it should have been planned for its present usefulness is as wonderful as

that the vision of the forefathers should have beheld the nation as it is today.

At first, the telephone was the voice of the community. As the population increased and its interests grew more varied, the larger task of the telephone was to connect the communities and keep all the people in touch, regardless of local conditions or distance.

The need that the service should be universal was just as great as that there should be a common language. This need defined the duty of the Bell System.

Inspired by this need and repeatedly aided by new inventions and improvements, the Bell System has become the welder of the nation. It has made the continent a community.

**AMERICAN TELEPHONE AND TELEGRAPH COMPANY
AND ASSOCIATED COMPANIES**

One Policy

One System

Universal Service

FEED FOR HARD-SHELL EGGS.

The feeding of hens for the production of hard-shell eggs, not easily breakable in handling, is possible and demands attention. Shells vary greatly in strength. A strong, heavy shell is not nearly so likely to be broken by the jars, jolts and rough handling incident to ordinary shipment as a weak one.

Chemical analyses show that the shell of the egg is largely carbonate of lime, and that it also contains carbonate of magnesia, mineral phosphate and some organic matter. If strong shells are to be produced, the mineral elements must not be lacking. Grains that are ordinarily fed do not contain these mineral elements in sufficient proportions, and an additional and separate supply is necessary. Fortunately, these mineral elements are available in much cheaper forms than in grains. Lime is the principal ingredient of oyster shells, which may be procured for about \$12 a ton. Iron, magnesia and often phosphorous in many kinds of artificial grit, may be procured for about the same price, while these elements in grain would cost at least double these figures.

Bone meal contains phosphorous in appreciable amounts, besides lime, magnesia, etc., and while expensive, it is effective in giving the shell an evenness and fineness of texture which adds much to its strength. It is, therefore, often used as an ingredient for dry mashers for laying flocks, usually in amount varying from three to five per cent.

Eggs that won't break give the poultryman greater profits than eggs that will. Make your hens lay the non-breakable kind.—Better Farming.

THE RHODE ISLAND RED.

As a general purpose fowl I think that the R. I. Red is as good if not better than any of the other breeds of this class. They are good layers of dark brown eggs which are of good size and always sell well.

I have never had the hens grow too fat from heavy feeding as some of the other breeds do. They always look well when dressed, especially the young cockerels with yellow skin and



A Rhode Island Red Pullet.

legs. They make a good market fowl because of the size. I have a yearling cock that weighs nine and one-half pounds, which is one pound more than the Standard calls for.

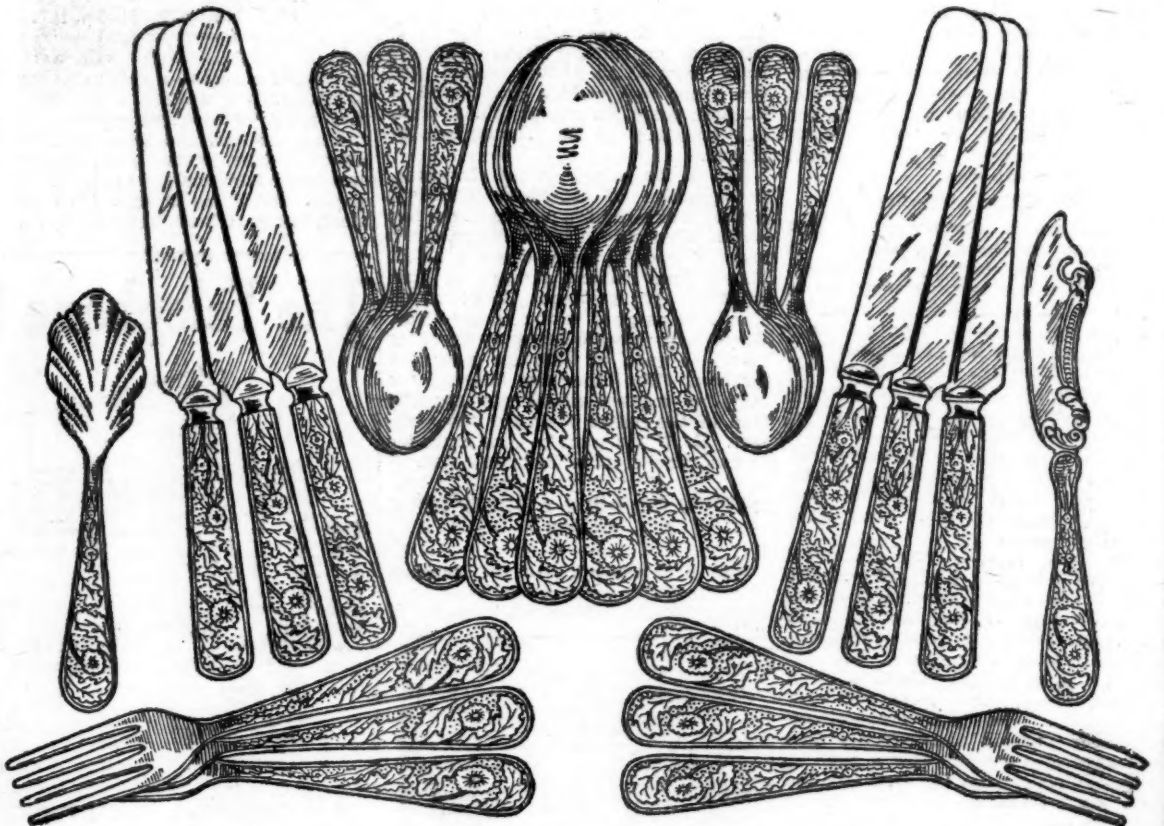
They make good broilers or roasters. I always like the rose-combs best because they do not freeze so easily as the single combs. But if your breeding fowls have all rose-combs some of the chicks will have single combs.

The R. I. Reds are quick to mature and the pullets will begin to lay if properly fed when about six months of age. The cockerels will make good roosters when five months old. The hens make fine mothers and sitters. The chicks are hardy and grow fast. They are tame and will not fly over an ordinary fence. They stand confinement well and are well suited to any one raising poultry, whether he be one who has a small back yard or a large poultry plant.—Harrison E. Tenney in American Poultry Advocate.

The Biggest Silverware Offer Ever Made

We have just one thousand sets of these popular 26-piece Electric Silver Sets and we want all readers of Colman's Rural World who have not already sent for a set to do so. This Electric Silver Set is a beauty, and although we have sent thousands of sets to our readers and offered to refund their money if dissatisfied we have not been asked to refund a single cent. Everybody is delighted with them when they get them. If you haven't sent for your set we advise you to do so immediately before the supply is exhausted. Each set is sent by parcel post prepaid to any address in the United States.

26-PIECE ELECTRIC SILVER SET FREE



WE WANT YOU TO HAVE A SET OF THIS SILVERWARE

We have in the past made many fine premium offers of silverware to our readers, but this is the first time we have ever been able to offer a complete electric Silver Set on such a liberal offer. And please don't think because we are giving away this splendid set on such liberal terms that it is the ordinary cheap silverware which is plated on a brass base and consequently changes color and has that "brassy" look just as soon as the plating wears off. This set which we offer you here is plated on a white metal base, therefore each and every piece is the same color all the way through and will wear for years. As shown in the above illustration there are 26 pieces in this set—6 Knives, 6 Forks, 6 Teaspoons, 6 Tablespoons, Sugar Shell and Butter Knife. Each piece is full regulation size for family use, the handles are handsomely embossed and decorated with the beautiful Daisy design which is now so popular and the blades of the knives and bowls of the teaspoons and tablespoons are perfectly plain and bright polished.

It is only because we buy this set in large quantities direct from the factory that we are able to secure it at a price that enables us to make the remarkable offer below. It is by far the greatest value we have ever offered. We will send this beautiful 26-Piece Electric Silver Set exactly as illustrated and described to any address upon the terms of the following special offer.

We have sent hundreds of these 26-Piece Electric Silver Sets to our readers, and in every case the subscriber has been delighted beyond measure. We are so sure that this 26-Piece Electric Silver Set will please and satisfy you that we make this offer,—and if you are dissatisfied after you get the 26-Piece Electric Silver Set, we will refund your money, or send you another set. You know we couldn't make such an offer unless this 26-Piece is exactly as we represent it.

How To Get This 26-Piece Silver Set Free SIGN THIS COUPON TODAY

**COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD,
ST. LOUIS, MO.**

Enclosed find \$1.25 to pay for a one year's subscription to Colman's Rural World and to Farm and Home. It is understood that you are to send me the 26-Piece Electric Silver Set—all charges to be prepaid.

Name

P. O. State R. F. D.

Hundreds Write Us Like This.

"Received my 26-Piece Electric Silver Set today, and can't express my delight. I never have seen anything to compare with them for the money. I don't see how you can give so much for so little money."—Mrs. Mary Banks, Brevard, N. C.

THE HOME CIRCLE

AND THE KITCHEN

LIFE'S WANDERER.

Pass on, O tired wanderer!
Upon thy lonely way;
Thou must not pause a moment,
Till the closing of the day.

Out there, upon thy pathway,
All the land is white with snow,
But ever, ever onward—
Thy weary feet must go.

Why dost thou stand here, wanderer,
And weep with bitter fear?
Why dost thou not go bravely on,
Without a sigh or tear?

Dost thou not know, O wanderer,
That just beyond thy sight
The soft green grass is growing,
And the sunshine's warm and bright?

And when at last thou seest
Gold and purple in the west,
Thou mayst lie down, O wanderer,
To a long, long, peaceful rest!

And thou will know of grander things,
When thou wakest from thy sleep;
Then, wanderer, thou wilt wonder
Why it was that thou didst weep.

Pass on, pass on, O wanderer,
Upon thy toilsome way;
Thou wilt rest in peace and happiness
At the closing of the day.
WILL H. FREEMAN-DYPE.
Altamont, Ill.

THE HISTORY AND TRADITIONS OF VALENTINE'S DAY.

All civilized countries make more or less of a holiday of the 14th of February; yet, there are many, both young and old who do not know why it is called "St. Valentine's Day."

The good man for whom the day was named was a bishop of Rome in the third century of the Christian era. He was of an amiable nature and was so eloquent that he converted such large numbers of the Romans to the Christian faith, that he incurred the displeasure of the Emperor, Marcus Aurelius Claudius, and by this ruler's orders was first beaten, then beheaded, February 14, A. D., 270, and when his name came to be placed in the calendar it was given to the day of his death.

The customs of choosing partners for the year or for life, however, though associated since that time with St. Valentine's day, had an earlier origin, and one in no wise connected with the Christian religion. It is said that brds in southern Europe pair about the middle of February, and this fact is the true source of the tender sentiment relating to the day. The ancient Romans held a feast on February 15 in honor of Pan, the great god of nature, when the names of all the virgin daughters of Rome were put in a box and drawn out by the young men. Each youth was bound to offer a gift to the maiden who fell to his lot and to make himself agreeable to her during the feast. No doubt, this led to many marriages among those so fortunate as to draw congenial partners, and was the forerunner of the custom of choosing sweethearts on Saint Valentine's Day.

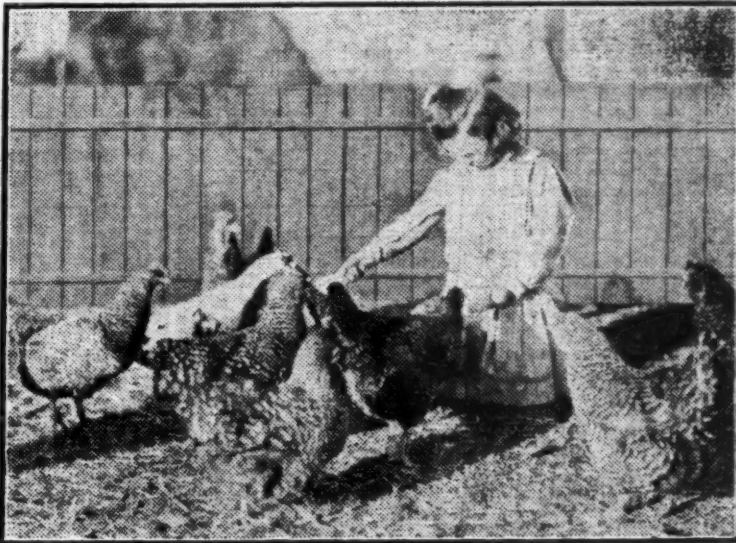
The early Christian fathers sought to improve on this custom by substituting the names of saints for those of girls in this lottery, but the young men preferred pretty partners to patron saints, for youth has ever considered religion of more or less remote individual consequence. When the custom was introduced into England and Scotland, it was rapidly adopted and "choosing valentines" is mentioned as early as 1446, though there was really no choice as each young man and woman wrote their names on billets to be drawn by the opposite sex as chance decreed.

This must have caused much confusion, when the young men found themselves drawn by other than the girls who fell to their lot, and they may be forgiven if they did more or less secret trading till the right one was

The Home Circle is a meeting place for weekly gatherings of the Rural World family. All of its members are invited to meet here in correspondence and good fellowship. Send lots of letters and get really acquainted.

The Kitchen is a factor in the Home Circle that no one can do without. Help to make it helpful, by sending for publication suggestions on how to make and do the things that are made and done in the kitchen. Tell others your ideas and experiences.

secured. We are told it was common custom for the young men to prefer those they had drawn, and to relieve themselves of obligation to the girls who drew them, by gifts. After the drawing, as among the Romans, the young men were supposed to play the gallant for the day or for a longer period, mutual attraction often resulting in partnerships for life. As the young man was expected to be lavish of his gifts, he no doubt found mar-



It's Pretty Hard to Beat the Barred Plymouth Rocks as an All-Round Fowl for the Farm.

riage with the recipient of his presents a good way to enjoy them himself also.

Later, the day came to mark an interchange of gifts, both among old and young, and if children managed to say "good morrow, Valentine," they were presented with some token of love or good will. This later still grew into the practice of sending variously adorned articles designed for gifts in commemoration of St. Valentine's day, and were called valentines, as they were supposed to be symbolic of the affection of the sender for the receiver of the present. These gifts carried with them also messages of love and adoration couched in more or less poetic language. The valentines that we older people remember, all tinsel and lacey paper, with their Cupids, doves and hearts and forget-me-nots and roses and rhymes breathing undying love and devotion, came later still.

The ugly and cruel comic valentines, the outgrowth of some evil, malicious mind, flourished also. There have always been small, mean natures that like to give a stab in the dark. The comic valentine afforded this opportunity once a year. Those who nursed their dislikes and petty animosities for their associates found the bad pictures and worse doggerel, a good method, in their mind, of settling old scores without being liable for slander, for these hideous messengers could be sent anonymously. The passing of the comic valentine from shop windows and the mails marks one step up and ahead for civilization. How much better are the postcards that can be bought so cheaply now, and which carry a message of friendly remembrance, much more in accord with the good St. Valentine who lived so many years ago.—"An Old-Timer."

If a large flock is to be kept, do not house too many in one place. Divide them into small flocks if possible. This is essential to the greatest success in egg production.

CREATING A DEMAND FOR PURE-BRED POULTRY.

To the Home Circle:—When we start out to raise pure-bred poultry we do so with the aim of selling the eggs and the poultry we raise at prices above what scrub stock sells on the local market. We could often find a good demand for our poultry in our own community if we worked to arouse an interest in them, and thus be saved the expense of shipping, and at the same time help to build up the poultry industry of the country.

Some years ago I bought eggs of Indian Runner ducks from a breeder in another state, and raised a nice bunch of the beauties, but decided to sell them before winter. I found a buyer in an adjoining state, and took them to the depot to ship them, and

their catalogs of poultry. Tell the children to study these papers and catalogs to learn the difference in breeds, and their chief characteristics, and let each one then choose one breed to write about.

With the co-operation of the teacher and pupils you can arrange a good poultry program for some Friday afternoon, when the parents can be invited to visit the school and hear the essays read, and a debate on whether it pays to raise hogs or hens would be a fitting close to the proceedings. When the farmers learn that a pound of chicken can be raised with just the same cost of feed as a pound of pork they will be ready to buy your pure-bred poultry, for practically any farmer of today knows that scrub stock eats just as much food as pure-bred, and never sells for as much on the market.

If the boys have been allowed to make some model coops and runs for baby chicks, and the girls some drawings of suitable houses for poultry, this will help in the good work, too.

I have demonstrated that a two-months-old chick from good stock is far superior for the table than one of a mongrel breed, even though hatched on the same day and raised in the same brood with exactly the same care, feed and attention. Some years ago I had a flock of Barred Plymouth Rocks, 54 in number, that laid an even 1,000 eggs during the month of March, and when I sold some of them in April they tipped the scales at double what the average scrub hens of my neighbors weighed. This made people sit up and take notice, and a demand soon sprung up for eggs and cockerels from a breed that laid and weighed, and consequently paid.

If you have good poultry don't hide your light under a bushel, but tell your neighbors at home, write about them for the local papers, visit the school and talk chicken, until you have created a demand.—Mrs. A. H. Bauer, Bois D'Arc, Mo.

GREEN FOOD FOR CONFINED CHICKENS.

Chickens which have their liberty eat a quantity of grass and herbs, and when kept in confinement, or under other conditions than natural ones, they need a substitute for this. Where possible, give the birds a grass run, if only for an hour a day; but when this cannot be managed give them fresh vegetables. Cabbage leaves which are quite fresh are relished, and lettuce is much liked. Dandelions, boiled and mixed with the soft food, answers well both to supply green food and to keep the birds in good condition. The herbs may have boiling water poured upon them, and after this has become cold, it may be used for mixing the soft food with. Green food in some form, the birds must have if they are to be kept in that condition which is a delight to every earnest poultry keeper.—H. Mortimer, Illinois.

There seems to be a prejudice against geese in many localities and yet they pay, seldom die from disease and there is always a demand for the feathers.

Big Sleeping Doll FREE



This fine sleeping doll is nearly two feet tall, and is all the rage. She has slippers, complete underwear, stockings, etc. Dress is very prettily made, half length, and trimmed with lace; also has a little chatelaine watch, with fleur-de-lis pin. You can dress and undress this doll just like a real baby. Has curly hair, pearly teeth, rosy cheeks, beautiful eyes, and goes to sleep just as natural as life when you lay her down.

This doll free for selling only 20 of our magnificent art and religious pictures at 10 cents each. We trust you with pictures until sold, and give an extra surprise gift for promptness. Send no money—just your name.

PEOPLE'S SUPPLY CO., Dept. R. W., St. Louis, Mo.

Earning Pin Money With Poultry and a Garden

Like most girls who live on farms, I wanted spending money and wanted it badly. Of course, I got some money, but it didn't satisfy me, because I wanted ever so many things, and it took a long while to get anything worth while, even if I saved most of the money I received. So, when I was given a start with a few mongrel chickens, I was satisfied. I couldn't look into the future and didn't know of the troubles (such as rump and cholera), that lay in waiting for the unwary beginner with poultry. I didn't know how high priced grain was and never guessed that the price of oats would soar to 72 cents a bushel, neither did I think wheat would cost me \$1.35 a bushel and corn \$1.80 a hundred pounds. I soon discovered all these things, and a lot more when I was fairly embarked in the business. And I was certainly given no encouragement by outsiders, in fact most of them tried to discourage me. Even in the family I got no encouragement, excepting from mother.

The men of the family poked fun at my "chicken business" excepting when they saw me sell some chickens and get a bunch of bills. They didn't poke fun then. Of course, this was not all at first, because in the beginning I was glad to sell enough to meet expenses.

I have had a long row and a hard one to hoe, (to use a homely figure of speech) but I don't regret it at all. I know now just what I can do and I've proven I am no "quitter." Of course, it is no credit to me that I stuck it out, but it would have been a big disgrace if I hadn't, as I come of stock who never know when they are beaten and who turn apparent failure into success by never giving up.

Where There's a Will, Etc.

Although it has been up-hill work, I think I've gotten to the top of the hill now, even if it was a long climb and a hard one. I sold a few settings of Wyandotte eggs at 50 cents a setting last year and expect to sell more eggs at that price this year and thus greatly increase my profits which are now moderate.

At first I expected a profit right away and that shows how ignorant I was, because I didn't know much about feeding. Neither did I keep vermin down as I now know must be done. But I did manage to get winter eggs and at first was told, "just wait, it hasn't snowed yet; wait until snow flies and you'll get no more eggs." When the hens continued laying even after the ground was covered with snow and laid all winter I was satisfied. But the next fall I was told it was because we had had a mild winter and was assured I couldn't do it again. But I did and now hear no more on that line.

Bone-Cutter Did It.

It wasn't a bit easy to put all the profit back into the business, but I knew that was the only way to succeed—so I did it. By scraping and saving I managed to get a bone-cutter which assured the winter-egg yield. I was exchanging chicken lore one day with a near-by farmer's wife, and when I mentioned the bone-cutter she remarked that she always wanted one, too. She also wanted to raise a couple of hundred chickens so that she could sell a hundred or so, keeping the rest for their own use. Then she intended to get a bone-cutter with the money she would get if she sold a hundred chickens, but (so she declared with a sigh) she had never been able to do it. She considered me lucky and couldn't understand how I did it all right and knew there was no luck about it; but what I wondered

(mentally of course) was why she didn't get what she wanted.

I bought all the feed I used while she never spent a cent for feed, as wheat and all was grown on her farm. If I had never bought feed—why, I simply cannot imagine it! It's too great a strain on my imagination. Then she never tried to get a good price for the eggs she sold, taking them all to a little country store with its usual low prices. I carried the eggs I had to sell to people in town, getting just about double the price she got.

Again she remarked that she didn't like to go into the chicken coop in summer, as there were so many mites there and they got on her and made her feel "crawly." My chicken coop, too, was once in that condition, but I tried painting the roosts with coal oil and dusting the hens frequently with powder and it worked very well. I also whitewashed thoroughly. I now have a small sprayer to spray the roosts with and could have saved a lot of time and trouble if I had bought it years ago.

While I was getting my experience I was also getting plenty of good ideas from articles on poultry, in farm papers, also from poultry papers. One of these ideas was that pure-bred stock paid best. Just as soon as I could, I bought White Wyandottes and have never regretted it. I was told, "don't pay much for them. Look at how cheap you have to sell yours." I did know how cheaply I had to sell mine, when the price of one was considered, but as I sold them by the pound I knew where the trouble lay, as they weighed three and a half and four pounds. I resolved that I would pay a good price, willingly, if I could secure big hens, so that I would grow big chickens quickly and cheaply. I now have a nice flock of Wyandottes, but still have a few mongrels. I've had calls for Wyandotte cockerels and was formerly unable to supply this demand but have some to sell this year.

I knew so little about raising chickens when I began that I fed them on wet cornmeal mash exclusively, and it was a rather sloppy wet mash at that. Naturally, I lost chickens in big lots, more in a day than I lose now in weeks. Of course, I killed them by feeding the wet mashes and when I read in the poultry journals that a sloppy mash was not proper food for chicks, I discontinued this ration and raised a much larger per cent of the chickens that were hatched.

Then I read so much about making both hens and chickens "scratch for a living" that I carried it to extremes and didn't feed enough. The idea was all right, but the way I carried it out was wrong as I now view it. I would sooner feed too much than not enough, especially in the case of a young growing chicken. To feed a growing chick too lightly, in the endeavor to make them hunt their living and so cost less for feed, stunts the chick and makes an unprofitable hen—one that cannot handle as much food as a laying hen should be profitable to her owner. Not only are hens that are underfed smaller, but their descendants also show the effects of this sort of feeding in decreased size and late and unprofitable maturity.

Why do farm folks, as a rule, select next year's breeding cockerels from their own hatches? I don't know why, unless it's from the mistaken idea that they are saving money if they don't spend any for breeding cockerels. I did this for years. Every fall I selected cockerels to keep for next year's breeding and when, even with the best of care, my young chickens died by the dozen I was almost at my wit's end. Finally, I realized that the trouble was in-breeding too closely and since then, I have purchased breeding cockerels frequently, which put an end to the weak and hard-to-raise chickens.

At first I had to carry most of the eggs to town to customers which a friend secured for me. I also sold eggs to conductors and motormen on the trolley car line which passes our door. Now, however, I can sell the eggs at the door as there are two shafts on the next farm, also a lot of construction work is being done on a breaker and a new road. Some of the men who are helping with this

work live in buildings which have been erected for them. As these men do their own cooking and eggs are quickly and easily prepared, eggs are much in demand with them. I also sell both young and old chickens to these men.

The Garden Helps.

I have a garden and the returns from it vary considerably, but I usually do well with it. Last year the returns were very small, being only \$2.25 for the beans which I planted in July. I had lettuce planted in my garden in the spring, but last year the market was glutted and lettuce did not pay; so, it was plowed under and the beans were sown. I lost money on the lettuce as I didn't sell enough to make the money it cost to grow the crop.

In 1913, I had peas planted and sold \$4.75 worth. I also had three rows of lettuce run between the peas and it sold for \$1.55 and there was a big unsatisfied demand. I was sorry I had not sown a row of lettuce between every two rows of peas, as there was sale for it and I could have made twice as much or more on the lettuce than I did on the peas. With this lesson in mind last year I put my whole garden in lettuce; but alas and alas! the bottom just dropped out of the lettuce market and I lost money on it.

Last year (1913) I paid \$1 for a patch of lettuce which the owner was disgusted with. I promptly went to work and cultivated it and it grew fast. I paid my little brother 25 cents for helping weed the lettuce and cleared \$8.25 on the transaction. The year before I planted early cabbage, but because of the drouth the cabbage did not get very big. The largest heads were sold and the rest was turned into sauerkraut; for the cabbage and sauerkraut, I received \$9.50. I also had lima beans and sunflowers planted. The limas sold for 50 and 75 cents a 14-quart basket and the sunflowers made my poultry happy.

If the ground were in better condition, I could make more money with my garden by planting the better paying crops, such as celery, cauliflower, etc. These crops will not grow there yet; but that is no more than could be expected, as the ground was so poor when I began using it that it had been abandoned as too unprofitable to farm. I used almost all the manure my chickens produced on this piece of ground and it is in a fairly good con-

dition today. In the winter of 1913-14 I had rye planted there and this rye was turned under in the spring for green manure. It supplied one thing that is badly needed on hill-sides and that is humus.

Guinea Fowls and Ducks.

A profitable side line of my poultry business is guineas, which I sell as breeders at \$1 each and \$2.75 a trio. The guineas pick up the biggest part of their living in summer and lay almost every day from May until November. They start laying just when numbers of the hens are getting broody and the egg yield is dropping; so, the guinea eggs come in handy to use as table eggs, instead of using the hens' eggs.

I am mentioning my duck business last, but it is not least. It is far from being the last in my books as it is rather profitable. I have sold hundreds of duck eggs and then could not supply the demand, which is local. I get 75 cents per 13 for the eggs and 25 cents each for week-old ducks. I sold quite a few of these week-old ducks last year and would sooner sell them at that age than raise them for 20 cents a pound live weight, which is the usual price for ducks. But there is profit in the "green duck" business, even at that price.

According to Uncle Sam, (in his bulletin on ducks and geese) it costs from 6 to 10 cents a pound to raise them. As I never sell a duck unless it weighs five pounds I can clear 50 cents on every duck. I have never kept a separate account of the feed fed the ducklings, so I don't know myself what it costs to raise a duck. Ducks are worth 20 cents a pound at any time of the year, but sell for more in the early spring and summer.

I have never lost a full grown duck, but the ducklings are delicate, and subject to rheumatism, when small, and I've lost many that way. I have common white ducks and realize that I get rather good prices, but as there is such a splendid local market, these prices are the natural result of a big demand.

Other Pin-Money Schemes.

Elderberries are marketable, as I learned when we had Swedish neighbors. These people would not allow anyone to gather elderberries on their farm. Since I sold some, I do not won-

(Continued on Page 14.)



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PATTERNS FOR RURAL WORLD READERS.



In ordering patterns for Waist, give bust measure only; for Skirts, give waist measure only; for children, give age only; while for patterns for Aprons say, large, small or medium.

9992. Ladies' One-Piece Apron.

Cut in three sizes: Small, medium and large. It requires $3\frac{1}{4}$ yards of 36-inch material for a medium size.

9917. Boys' Suit.

Cut in four sizes: 4, 6, 8, and 10 years. It requires $2\frac{3}{4}$ yards of 44-inch material for a 6-year size.

1184. Girls' Dress With or Without Vest Portion.
Cut in four sizes: 8, 10, 12 and 14 years. It requires $3\frac{3}{4}$ yards of 44-inch material for a 10-year size.

9844. Pajamas for Misses and Ladies.
Cut in six sizes: 14, 16, and 18 years, for misses, and 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inches bust measure. It requires 5 yards of 36-inch material for a 14-year size and 6 yards for a 36-inch size.

1197. Costume for Misses and Small Women.
Cut in four sizes: 14, 16, 17 and 18 years. It requires $6\frac{1}{4}$ yards of 40-inch material or a 16-year size. The skirt measures about 3 yards with plaits drawn out.

1013. Ladies' Waist.

Cut in six sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires $3\frac{1}{2}$ yards of 27-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1201. Child's Set of Dress, Petticoat and Drawers.

Cut in four sizes: 1, 2, 3 and 4 years. It requires $2\frac{1}{4}$ yards of 27-inch material for the dress, $2\frac{3}{4}$ yards for the petticoat and $\frac{1}{4}$ yard for the drawers for a 3-year size.

9731. Ladies' Combination Corset Cover and Drawers.

Cut in three sizes: Small, medium and large. It requires $1\frac{1}{4}$ yards of 27-inch material for the corset cover, $2\frac{1}{2}$ yards for the drawers with $2\frac{1}{2}$ yards of embroidery 5 inches wide for ruffling for a medium size.

9852. Ladies' House Dress.
Cut in six sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires $5\frac{1}{4}$ yards of 44-inch material for a 36-inch size.

1041. Ladies' Three-piece Skirt With or Without Tunic.

Cut in six sizes: 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure. It requires $5\frac{1}{4}$ yards of 36-inch material for a 24-inch size, to make skirt with tunic; without tunic, it will require

THE MERRY GAME CLUB FOR OUR BOYS & GIRLS

Conducted by the President—Essilyn Dale Nichols, 1527 35th St., Rock Island, Illinois.

Well, little folks, as we have our second prize story to print this week, as well as some nice games, we had better begin at once. Our second prize-picture story was written by a little girl living in Albion, New York. Here it is:

A Friend in Deed is a Friend in Need. (By Luella Kettle.)

"Once there was a little girl who had broken her dolly and was feeling very sad. She was crying all alone by herself when a little boy with long golden curls happened along. This little fellow, who seemed to be dressed nicer than she, saw that she was in trouble. He put his little arms around her and said: 'Do not cry, little friend. Christmas is drawing near and maybe Santa will bring you another dolly if you are a good girl and mind mamma. That is what my mamma tells me when I ask her for a new sled. I'll tell you! Write Santa a nice letter and tell him you broke your dolly and how bad you feel. He brings dolls to nice little girls, so you must be good or he will not stop at your home.'

"The little girl wrote Santa Claus a letter and on Christmas morning to her great surprise a large dolly with golden hair and blue eyes was peeping out of her stocking and other little toys that made her heart glad ever after. This little boy who was a friend in deed was a friend in need."

Your story, Luella, won second prize because it was the right length, it described the picture, it was well named and it was plainly written. You will receive a beautiful post card in a box very soon.

Now we will have our games. The first prize this week was won by Ruby Day of Oliver Springs, Tennessee, who sent in a game called "The Ribbon Store."

The Ribbon Store.

(Described by Ruby Day.)

To begin there must be a buyer and a seller of ribbons, and as many players representing ribbons as there are different colors. The buyer chooses a "base" some distance from the ribbon seller and then comes to the ribbon seller to buy ribbons. The ribbon seller asks: "What color do you want?" The buyer names a color and

3 yards. The skirt measures $1\frac{1}{4}$ yards at the lower edge, in a medium size.

1199. Ladies' Over Basques.

Cut in six sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. It requires three yards of 36-inch material for No. 1, and $2\frac{1}{4}$ yards for No. 2, for a medium size.

1077-1076. Ladies' Costume.

Waist 1077 is cut in six sizes: 34, 36, 38, 40, 42 and 44 inches bust measure. Skirt 1076 is cut in six sizes: 22, 24, 26, 28, 30 and 32 inches waist measure. It requires 7 yards of 44-inch material to make the dress for a medium size. The skirt measures $1\frac{1}{4}$ yards at its lower edge. Two separate patterns, 10c for each.

These patterns will be sent to RURAL WORLD subscribers for 10 cents each (silver or stamps).

If you want more than one pattern, send 10 cents for each additional pattern desired.

Fill out this coupon and send it to COLMAN'S RURAL WORLD, 718 Lucas Ave., St. Louis, Mo.:

Pattern No. Size. Years

Bust. in. Waist. in.

Name

Address

the "ribbon" who is the color named starts to run for the buyer's "base." The other "ribbons" immediately start in pursuit. If the "ribbon" reaches the buyer's "base" safely, he or she must remain there, but if caught must return to the seller's side (but is no longer a ribbon). Thus the game continues until all the ribbons are sold. The side having the most "ribbons" at the close of the game, wins.

Ruby: You will receive a prize for "The Ribbon Store" before you read it in this week's Merry Game Club. I am pleased to know that you like the club so well. Our second prize game was sent in by Winnie Belle Jones of Smithville, Ga., who sent in the first correct guess in our funny guessing contest, and also who sent in the first game for our Merry Game Club. The game Winnie Belle sends this time is called "Stealing Grapes." Here it is:

"Stealing Grapes."

(Described by Winnie Belle Jones.)

To begin, the children form a ring holding hands. They then break hands and one player stays on the inside of the ring and chooses a player to stay on the outside of the ring. The one on the outside asks: "What are you doing?" The inside player answers: "Stealing grapes." The outside player then asks: "Are they sweet or sour?" The inside player answers: "Come and see." Then the outside player runs after the inside player and they run in and out of the ring and around it until the inside player is caught. The outside player then takes the inside player's place and chooses some one else for the outside player, and the game is continued thus until the players are tired.

Winnie Belle: I will send you a very pretty post card for this game, and I am glad to know that you liked your post card in a box and the game of word taking and word making. You are certainly a smart little member of the Merry Game Club. Our third prize game was sent in by Agnes Bunch of Woodland, Ga. This game is called Whirly-burly.

Whirly-burly.

(Described by Agnes Bunch.)

All the players are seated except one who must go about and tell the players what to do, such as, getting up and whirling about, shaking hands with one of the other players, singing a song, clapping hands, etc. The one standing then calls out: "Whirly-burly!" and each player proceeds to do what he or she has been told to do. Then the one standing tries to get someone else's seat, and the one that is left without a seat must begin the game again.

Agnes: I will send you a pretty post card for this game. When I was a little girl I used to play a game called Whirly-burly, but it wasn't played exactly like the game you told us about.

Genolia Burer: "One of my little girls": Dearie, you mentioned a number of fine games in your letter, but you see, you didn't describe how any of them were played, excepting "Jump the rope" and the description you have of that was so short that I don't believe I could tell other little boys and girls how to play it. Supposing you write and tell me how you play house, and tell me more about "Jumping the rope." Don't you count when you "jump the rope," honey? I am sure you will win a prize if you will write and tell me exactly how these games are played.

Bonnie Clem: I am indeed glad that you were so well pleased with your prize. Thank you for the pretty post card.

I have many other messages to send to our prize-picture story writers, but haven't space this week.

When using hens for hatching, set several at one time so that the chicks will come in together, making it possible to double them up and so release some of the hens. Use lice powder while a hen is sitting.



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IN THE ORCHARD AND THE GARDEN

STARTING ONION SEED IN HOTBEDS AND IN THE OPEN.

The soil for onions should be a good black loam, not too heavy nor too light, but just a medium loamy soil, facing a southern sunny spot. Where light soil prevails, a heavy dressing of well-rotted cow manure should be put on in the fall. If troubled with grub, add a good dressing of lime and soot and plow or dig under to at least a depth of six inches. It should be deeper, but it is not possible with a plow. The soil should be worked as soon as possible in the spring and worked very fine, especially if seed is planted. Tread the ground well or roll it before the drills are drawn. A good plan is to give another dressing of soot before sowing.

If the soil is heavy use a light dressing of stable manure with a dressing of wood ashes at the rate of two or three bushels to the square rod in the fall, with a light dressing of soot and other treatment as in the former case, followed by a lime and soot dressing in the spring before sowing. The drills should be drawn at least 15 to 18 inches between the drills. For good results cover the seed with a hoe and tread the drills lightly by walking down the row with one foot in front of the other so that in each step the heel touches the toe.

Starting in Hotbeds.

By far the best way to grow large onions is to plant them in a hotbed with about eight to ten inches of fresh horse manure and four inches of soil. Good results can be got by placing a box in a southern position. Fill with a compost of fresh stable manure according to size of box (a foot high is preferred) and cover with glass and a piece of brown paper until the seed has germinated. As soon as the plants are four to six inches high plant out in the open at a distance of six to nine inches in the rows and 15 to 18 inches apart. Water after planting so as to settle the plants in position. Evening or a dull day is best for setting out the plants to prevent drooping, but take care to harden the plants off before setting out to permanent quarters by removing glass on warm days.

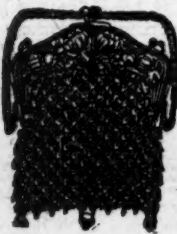
Seed in Open Ground.

After the seed appears in the open ground and is high enough to thin out, thin to six inches apart and if a further supply is needed, plant the sturdiest as in the case of the hotbed onions. After thinning, the hoe should be used at a depth of one and a half to two inches and continued at least once a week. When about half grown add a dressing of salt or nitrate of soda and hoe lightly. Just before a shower of rain is a great advantage for this work as it supplies the nutriment straight away to the plant and soon the leaves will be seen to darken. A solution of manure water at an interval of every three days with soot added will be sufficient with a weekly hoeing until full growth.

Toward the end of June earth up a little and again about the third week in July so as to encourage growth. A

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good variety to grow is Aisla Craig which can be grown to the weight of two and a half to three pounds each.—F. W. Costin, Michigan.

HOW TO PREPARE A HOTBED.

Collect unheated manure from the horse barns and mix with the pure manure an equal amount of straw that has been used for bedding. Fork this over well and pile in a heap and let stand for about two days. If it does not start to heat this time moisten the entire pile with warm water.

Prepare a pit for the manure bed. This should be located on the south side of buildings with a good exposure to the sun. The pit should be about two feet deep, not over six feet wide and as long as desired. It is preferable to have the long measure east and west. As soon as the manure has started to heat well, it should be placed in the pit and carefully tramped. This is the best method of packing the manure evenly in all parts of the bed. If it seems dry add enough water to dampen, but do not apply enough to saturate the bed. Let the bed stand until it is heating well throughout, then cover with five or six inches of good garden loam. Let this stand for three or four days and then work down the surface with a rake and the bed is ready for seeding.

A broad frame, 10 or 12 inches high on the south and double that on the north, should be placed about the bed when the pit is prepared. The glass sash or cloth covering used should be placed on as soon as the manure is packed in.

A bed prepared in this way will furnish heat about six weeks. The temperature will run high at the start and gradually go down. At the end of six weeks the hot bed becomes a cold frame and will protect plants from frosts but not hard freezes.

ORCHARD AND GARDEN NOTES.

Portulaca is one of the best annuals to plant in a hot, sunny place. It does well in light soil if it has sunlight.

Bring up some of the bulbs from the cellar. They should furnish flowers for a large part of the spring months.

If cosmos is used, get early varieties. The late sorts must be started early and even then do not always flower.

Write for catalogs and get the seed list made up and ordered. It will soon be time to plant early vegetable and flower seed.

The annual poppies are splendid to plant in wild corners. They grow easily and are not particular as regards soil so long as they have plenty of sunlight.

Don't throw away the old bulbs after they have flowered. As soon as the ground can be worked, plant them in the shrubbery or garden. You will get some flowers from them again, but they should not be forced.

Branches of pussy-willow and of some of the early-flowering plants, if brought into the house or greenhouse and put in water, will bloom very quickly. It is well to spray the twigs often to prevent their drying too fast.

Manure-water may be used to advantage on plants just coming into bud. It is made by suspending a sack of cow or sheep manure in water until the water becomes the color of strong tea. Commence by giving a small amount at a time.

What is there about your farmstead that makes it different from those in the same vicinity? Is it the well planted lawn, painted buildings, and general air of thrift about the place, or is it the unpainted buildings, broken machinery in the yard, and a general appearance of carelessness and waste? Now is a good time to set plans in motion for better farmsteads. An attractive place is a splendid advertisement for the owner and the community.

Seed of pansies and other early flowers may be sown now and the plants transplanted as soon as large enough.

Plant a few currants, gooseberries, and raspberries this spring. They are easy to care for and will repay any one.

If it is good weather, prune your trees this month. If the pruning is done now it won't have to be done later.

CREAM OF THE DAIRY NEWS

PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE IN STARTER MAKING AT CREAMERIES.

I shall try to tell just how we make starters at the creamery where I am employed. For our starters we use whole milk exclusively. I had tried the use of skim milk some years ago, but have entirely abandoned that. Of course, in a place where whole milk is out of reach skim milk powder or condensed skim milk will, no doubt, answer the purpose very well.

We have no trouble in getting whole milk for our starters, as fully 90 per cent of our receipts is whole milk. After our milk is selected, morning milk always, it is strained into our starter can through two thicknesses of cloth, using two cloth circles for that purpose. For pasteurizing our starter milk we use boiling water in space of can, as it has less tendency to bake the milk to the can and will not fill the room with steam like it would using steam only.

To what temperature should the milk be heated? is a question often asked, and, of course, opinions differ. We are at present heating to 185 degrees F. Years ago we used to think that it was necessary to heat the starter milk to nearly boiling point, but our experience was that it has a tendency to impart a burned flavor in the milk, and this would be carried along to the ripe starter.

We are experimenting with one thing that perhaps you will not all agree with me about. We use an extra can in which we ripen our starters. Our tinner made a non-jacketed can about the size of our starter can, and after our starter milk is inoculated and well stirred it is poured into this can and left for ripening. This gives us a chance to clean our starter can and have it ready for the next morning. It also saves the tinning on the starter can, as you will understand no ripe starters are held in our can. A starter can with the tinning worn off is practically worthless unless it is retinned. This is also true to the cream ripener. Next comes the most important step in starter making, and that is the handling of the mother starter. Glassware is the most satisfactory in which to carry the mother starters—the glass-stoppered jars or the common milk bottles. The common milk bottles are surprisingly strong and will stand a great amount of heat sterilizing, and by boiling a bit of parchment paper to place over the opening we have a perfectly airtight bottle. We do not pasteurize our milk for the mother starters in the mother starter jars, but take that out of our large batch of starter milk. For ripening our mother starters we use starter and temperature enough so as to have them coagulate in about four hours, when they are placed in our refrigerator.

When operating the creamery every other day, or when a large batch of starter is not wanted daily, the best thing is to repasteurize the starter milk the second day and carry the mother starters the same as when operating every day.

In handling the starters the greatest care must be used to have everything clean and sterile. Dippers and glassware must be first washed clean and then sterilized by placing same in a cabinet for that purpose. The operator must also see that his hands are clean and dry. The quality of our starters will all depend on how well these things are done.

A good time to add starter to cream is when one has a few gallons of cream in the vat, and occasionally stir while more cream is being added. The starter should be strained into the cream. It should have a

smooth body and a clean acid flavor, testing around 7 per cent acidity.

How to start a new culture I shall not say anything about. The culture makers give very complete directions with the culture, and these should be followed.

These are only a few remarks, and I hope that they shall be only a starter for a good discussion, in which I hope that a number of my fellow buttermakers will take part.

In conclusion, allow me to mention a few conveniences in connection with starter making:

For weighing the starter milk a spring balance scale hung in the receiving room will do away with guessing the weight.

An extra can in which to ripen the large starter is a convenience and almost a necessity if the cream ripened is used as a pasteurizer.

A self-packing union for connecting the starter can with water and steam pipes will eliminate the use of rubber hose.

A tackle can be used to good advantage for pouring the starter into the cream vat.

A box made of galvanized iron, with a door in it and hung in a convenient place and connected to a steam pipe, is a good device in which to sterilize glass jars, dippers, etc.—An address by Alex Johnson before the Minnesota Buttermakers' Convention.

CALAMITY COWS.

One of the most practical features of the National Dairy Show held at Chicago last November was the testing of a number of cows picked up throughout a number of dairy districts. From observation it was impossible to determine which cows were money makers and which were money losers, but by very careful and practical tests these cows were divided into two classes: (1) Those that more than paid for their feed and care, and (2) those that did not pay their owner for feed and care. In the latter class was one cow named Calamity. She was well named. For every dollar's worth of feed she consumed she returned to her owner 56.4 cents. If any one suspects that they have a calamity cow or so in their stable (there are thousands of such cows in this country) your college of agriculture will assist you in spotting her.

Sunlight is the cheapest disinfectant. Let it into the stables freely. Set the milk pails, and butter making utensils out where the sunshine can get into them. There's health in sunlight and health means happiness and money.

EARNING PIN MONEY WITH POULTRY AND A GARDEN.

(Continued from Page 12.)

der at their promptness in getting trespassers off their place. Last summer I got 25 cents a 14-quart basket for elderberries. There is more profit in the berries at this price than in the same amount of carrots or beets at a like price, as the berries cost nothing to raise, whereas the beets, etc., do cost for seed and labor.

I used to sell Indian relics and found them a profitable source of spending money as they cost nothing but the time spent in hunting for them. I could sell the relics I have now, but I have started a collection of my own and will not sell.

I find that the easiest way to be sure of spending money is to supply local demands. I advise any farmer's daughter, who wants to earn spending money, to try and fill the demands of the local market, rather than attempting to earn money by answering the advertisements of "work for women at home." Those people either want cheaper labor than you can supply or they want to sell you some sort of an outfit.

Between my chickens, ducks, guineas and garden, I have cleared not a fortune, but a nice lot of pocket money with which I have bought many things which otherwise I would never have gotten. I have even managed to start a small bank account.—Miss M. A. Herold, Pennsylvania.

HORSE BREEDING AND RAISING

MISSOURI HARNESS HORSE NEWS AND VIEWS.

Editor, Rural World:—It may be well at times to look back over the paths we have come. It was a fancy of mine to work horses that had been spoiled, which more often occurs in New England, where they are usually left unhandled until three or four years old. Such an one was a 16-hand bay son of Woodstock, thrown backward by a young negro, the first time he was driven off the farm; his tail was broken. He was passed from one to the next. When they failed in an attempt to make him work double on the mall back from Ludlow to Woodstock he was turned onto the mountain and there he ran for months. I took him up and drove him upwards of 1,100 miles that summer.

While driving through Paper Mill Village, N. H., I saw Dr. F. M. Wetherston of Boston, a druggist, to whom I had sold common letter press drug labels. I took him in and drove up the hill to Langdon stud farm, where I saw Goodwood 2223 and his brother Mambrino Kirkman. There I caught the fever and I have never recovered.

Woodford Mambrino was undoubtedly the best son of Mambrino Chief. Jessie, dam of Goodwood, was by Edwin Forrest 49, out of Kitty Kirkman by Canada Chief, the dam of Gretchen, dam of Inca, 2:27, by Woodford Mambrino, Romero, 2:19½, by A. W. Richmond and Del Sur, 2:24½, by the Moor. There was not a shadow of similarity in the breeding of the sires. At Greenville, Ill., I got in with O. B. Colcord, state agent for the McCormick Harvesting Co., and owner of Colcord's Mambrino, son of Mambrino Chief 11. This horse sired size and speed, but his get were unreliable. His value, if he had any, was lost for want of a better class of mares to mate with him. Colcord talked to me of his friend, Norman J. Colman, of St. Louis, Mo., who began wrong, using little Morgans and Pilot Jr. horses and mares. He secured a son of Alexander's Abdallah, dam by Chorister, son of Imp. Contract. In 1876, he traded Colman's Abdallah for the Clay Iron Duke, owned and kept with Trojan 312. He sent him on a lease to Edwardsville in Madison county, Ill., never saw him again, and let his feed bill take him. I judged the governor thought both parties were cheated in the trade. The governor saved a daughter of Dixie, 2:30, by Pilot Jr., until his friend Leo Moser purchased Reserve Fund, son of Nutwood, as a colt and then sold him the mare for \$1,000 and regretted it as long as he lived. She produced speed to every thing she was mated with. Like the Arkansas fiddler, he had turned the tune when I saw him, the middle of December, 1881.

Among the governor's little Morgan mares, Colcord had told me of was Tropana, sister to Ella Wright, 2:24½. He bred her to Merchant 599, son of Belmont and Lady Mambrino, and in 1877, the year after he gave Colman's Abdallah away, she foaled Monitor 1327, sire of the dam of Carmen, the head of the government stud at Ft. Collins, Colo., and the great-granddam of Baron Reaper, 2:09¼.

The Colman Stock Farm brood mares were increased in size, and until two years before his death, when he purchased Reserve Fund, the mares were mated with outside horses, largely to Grattan, Axtell, Millerton and Sawa, sire of the Thos. W. Lawson "gold brick," Sagwa, 2:13¼, pacing 2:11.

Under the management of the present superintendent, Carl Rothenhaber, it is doubtful if there is a farm in America that has been built up on the farm mares that will offer any sire better opportunities than Baron

Leaper, 2:09¼, will have, as the head of the present Colman Stock Farm, Belle of St. Louis lost her foal in her six-year-old form, and was running down on pasture. Mr. Rothenhaber decided to feed and jog her. She was sired by a son of Allendorf, whose dam was Monitor Rose, out of Bay Dixie; in her fourth race she won the last three heats, trotting the last two in 2:21¼. It would look as if they had increased in speed, as well as size, as Monitor Rose, dam of her sire also produced, to Expedition, the dam of Royal Reaper, 2:09¼. Monitor, son of Merchant, by Belmont, out of Trojana, was one of the great sires of the country.

If Mr. Major, our new state fair secretary, arises to the occasion, the Colman Stock Farm will not be the

only breeding farm that will nominate all the brood mares in the future, and Dan Patch will not be the only sire of a 2:10 trotter, with a record made at a state fair meeting.

When I started this letter I was looking back. Before I knew it I was looking forward to 1918. When, if Mr. Major is the right man in the right place, more than one Missouri-bred colt will trot in 2:10 or better in a race. No state in the Union has three better bred 2:10 sires than R. Ambush, 2:09¼, Baron Reaper, 2:09¼, and Mightellion, 2:09¼. Every mare bred to them should be nominated if Mr. Major sees the intention and makes it understood that the \$1 nomination fee and all other payments by Missouri breeders go to make up the stake, with \$500 added

to the trotting and \$500 to the pacing division; the race to be two in three, mile heats, under stake rules; any horse distancing his field or any part of said field will get first money and all the money horses so distanced could have won. We will see Missouri-bred colts in shape to compete with the world, and competing, win. Also we will see them selling as high as horses bred anywhere on earth.—L. E. Clement, Pierce City, Mo.

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Begin Your Collection of 48 Stunning State Seal Souvenir Spoons TODAY!

Colman's Rural World readers can now share in the nation-wide distribution of WM. ROGERS & SON STATE SEAL SILVER SOUVENIR SPOONS—the most wonderful and beautiful collection of souvenir spoons in the world. Thousands of people in the big cities are collecting them. The spoon craze is sweeping the country like wildfire.

Every loyal American wants a set of State Seal Spoons. The name WM. ROGERS & SON, stamped on the back of the handle,—known to a generation for celebrated silverware creations—guarantees the extra heavy, extra durable plate of PURE SILVER.

All designs heavy, deep cut. All patterns uniform, with majestic searing eagle and golden rod emblems. All State Seals handsomely embossed on center of handle. Spoons have plain bowls, useable and easily cleanable. No illustration can do justice to the rare beauty and high quality of these spoons.

Exquisite Set of 48 Spoons Representing Every State in the Union

When you see the richness and elegance of these spoons, you will not be satisfied until you have the entire set of 48. They are absolutely the finest Souvenir Spoons ever designed, and guaranteed 90 pennyweights of pure silver to the gross on an 18 per cent nickel silver base. Start your collection now—don't miss a single one of these Superb Souvenir Spoons.

A Royal Gift For Your Friends

A set of State Seal Souvenir Spoons make a magnificent birthday, wedding, graduation, confirmation or anniversary gift. Just the thing for young ladies' "Hope Chests"—now so popular.

Satisfaction Guaranteed

or Money Back Rush Either Coupon NOW

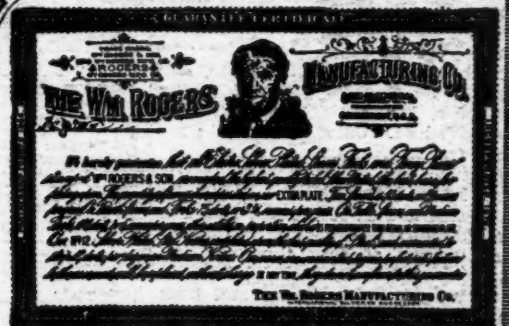
Our Sample Spoon Offer!

This coupon and 15 cents, with 3 cents additional for return postage and individual box container is good for any one of the spoons listed on this page. Don't Delay—Send Today!

WM. ROGERS & SON AA Guaranteed Silver State Seal Spoons Get the Genuine

This guarantee makes each spoon exchangeable at any time if not satisfactory.

This Certificate of Guarantee wrapped around every spoon



List of Spoons NOW READY

You Can Order Six or More on Coupon Below

- | | | |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| No. 1. Ohio | No. 5. Minnesota | No. 9. New York |
| No. 2. Indiana | No. 6. Illinois | No. 10. Pennsylvania |
| No. 3. Michigan | No. 7. Iowa | No. 11. California |
| No. 4. Wisconsin | No. 8. Texas | No. 12. Massachusetts |

Our "Six-Spoon" Coupon

with 90 cents and 10c for postage & packing brings any Six Spoons—Order by Number

SAMPLE SPOON COUPON

National Souvenir Spoon Co.
222 S. State St., Chicago, Dept. 3

I enclose 15 cents (stamps or money order) for which please send me, postpaid, in individual box container,

Souvenir Spoon

(Insert name of state)

Name

Address

State

Elegant Gift Case

We furnish a beautiful Gift Case, stamped in gold, for 25 cents, (holds half dozen or dozen).

Address all correspondence to

National Souvenir Spoon Co.

222 S. State, Chicago Dept. 3

"6 SPOON" COUPON

National Souvenir Spoon Co.
222 S. State St., Chicago, Dept. 3

Please send the State Seal Souvenir Spoons numbered as follows:

(Order by number—see list of states)

I enclose Money Order for \$..... in payment for Spoons at 15c each, also for postage and packing.

(For six spoons send 90c and 10c for postage and packing. Add 15c for each additional spoon ordered.)

Name

Address

State

For 6th St., check here ☐ and add 25 cents